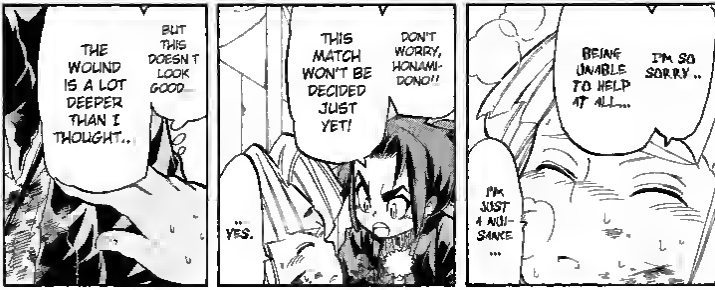
7
THE GENERALS' DUAL!!
JUMP COMICS
サムライデッド
FUKUSHIMA TEPPEI

CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE: SHINO AND NANANA PILLS

YOU OKAY, TASUKE-CHAN!?
HON-AMI-SAMA!!
HON-AMI-DONO!!


I'M SO SORRY..
BEING UNABLE TO HELP AT ALL...
I'M JUST A HIJI-SAMA...
DON'T WORRY, HONAMI-DONO!!
THIS MATCH WON'T BE DECIDED JUST YET!
..YES.
BUT THIS DOESN'T LOOK GOOD...
THE WOUND IS A LOT DEEPER THAN I THOUGHT..

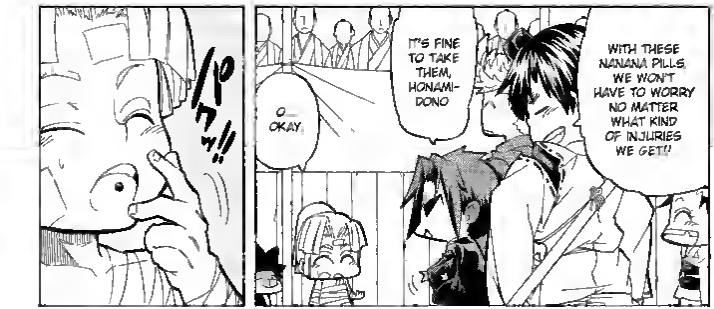
DON'T WORRY, HONAMIN!!
I'LL FIX YOU RIGHT UP!!
OOH, THAT'S RIGHT!!
YOU BROUGHT A MEDICINE BOX ALONG, DIDN'T YOU!!

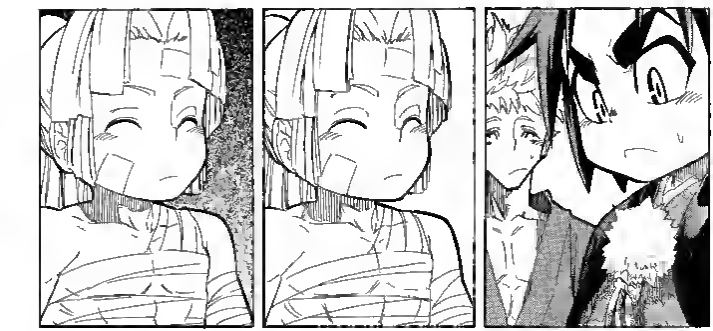
NOC: OH! TASUKE IS CALLING SHINO-CHAN! HE SEEMED PRETTY SHY WHEN IT CAME TO GIRLS, BUT I GUESS HE CAN RELAX AROUND THE INSTRUCTOR'S WIFE, HAHA.

HERE YOU GO!
TAKE THESE, OKAY!!
...?
...ME-DICINAL PILLS?
WHAT ARE THESE, SHINO?
THESE ARE
EH...
DON'T TELL ME...
PLEASE ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN!!
THESE THINGS
ARE CALLED "NANANA PILLS"!!!
HERE IT IS!!!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU ACTING COOL FOR!!?

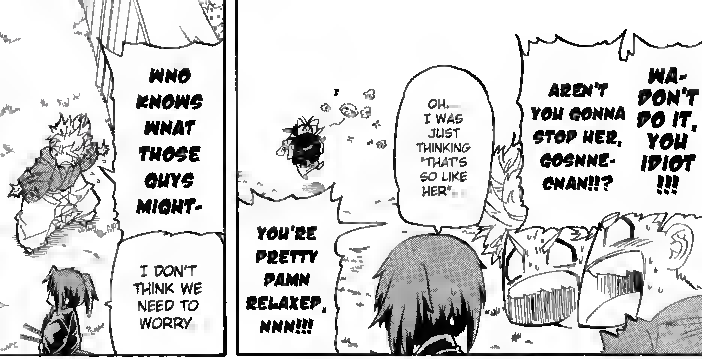
HM...THE WOUND I RECEIVED ON MY BACK FROM WHEN MATSUYAMA CUT ME...
I DID FEEL LIKE IT HEALED A LOT FASTER THAN USUAL... WAS THAT THANKS TO THOSE NANA HERBS?
THEN THEY'RE MASHED DOWN INTO THESE MEDICINAL PILLS!!
YOU KILL THEM !!?
WE BOIL A HUGE AMOUNT OF NANA HERBS 'TILL THEIR DEAD
IT WORKS AS A STYPTIC, PAINKILLER, AND ALSO HELPS WITH A LOT OF OTHER AILMENTS!!
THE EASIEST NANA HERB WORK WITH IS A
I'm done for..
DEAD ONE!

TN: THE TITLE WAS TOO STYLISH FOR ME TO WANT TO ERASE! IT JUST REFERS TO SHINANA MIXING THE WORD DEATH (SHI) IN WITH THE USUAL NANA HERB.


パクッ!!
O... OKAY.
IT'S FINE TO TAKE THEM, HONAMI-DONO
WITH THESE NANANA PILLS WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF INJURIES WE GET!!



HE'S PASSED OUT IN TEARS!!!
THE NANANA PILL IS ROUGHLY 5000 TIMES STRONGER THAN THE NANA HERB ITSELF.
IT'S KNOWN AS "THE MEDICINE THAT MAKES YOU WISH YOU WERE DEAD."
BUT BY THE TIME HE WAKES UP, HONAMI-SAMA WILL BE VERY LIVELY!!
I'M NOT SO SURE...
HM?
SHINO SEEMS TO BE GONE?
OVER THERE!
THERE'S ANOTHER PERSON WHOSE WOUNDS STILL NEED TO BE TREATED!
!!!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
SHINO!!
HMMM?


WHO KNOWS WHAT THOSE GUYS MIGHT-
I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO WORRY
YOU'RE PRETTY DAMN RELAXED, NNN!!!
OH... I WAS JUST THINKING "THAT'S SO LIKE HER"
AREN'T YOU GONNA STOP HER, GOSHNE-CHAN!!?
WA- DON'T DO IT, YOU IDIOT !!!

SHINO'S ACTIONS FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE USAGI DOJO, I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH THEM
.....
FROM WHAT I COULD TELL FROM WATCHING THE LAST FIGHT, IT SEEMS THAT THEY DON'T WANT TO ACT WASTEFULLY...
AND ARE NOT INTENT ON KILLING DURING THIS BATTLE

ARE BOTH PARTIES READY !!?
OH!
WELL THEN, THE THIRD ROUND WILL BEGIN SOON!!

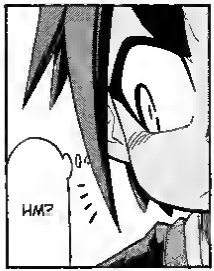
THAT WAS FAST !!!!
THEY SAID THEY DIDN'T NEED IT!!

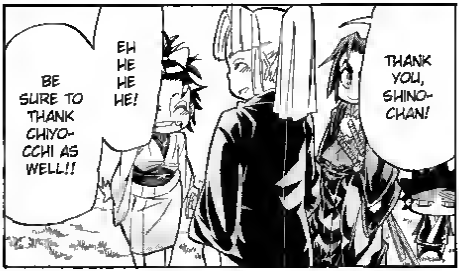
NOW IT LOOKS AS THOUGH CHIYOKICHI HAS GONE MISSING.
OH?

THIS IS NO GOOD..
I HAVEN'T DECIDED ON WHO WILL BE THE MAINSTAY YET...
IT'S EITHER ME OR CHIYO-KICHI...
OR YOU, GOSUKE-CHAN.

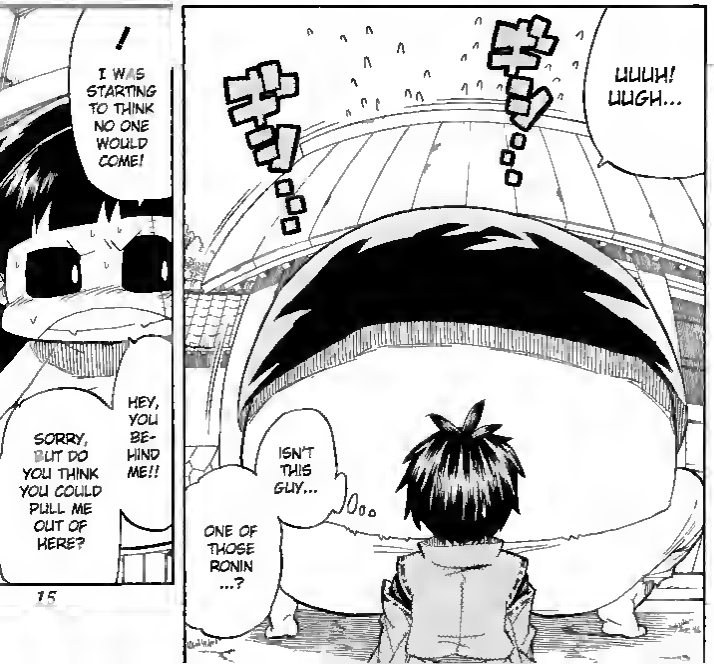
THE PAIN HAS FADED SO MUCH, IT'S AMAZING!
I CAN'T MOVE AS WELL AS I'D LIKE, BUT...
THOSE "NANANA PILLS" REALLY WORK!

HONAMI-DONO!!
I-IS YOUR BODY OKAY!!?
IF IT'S CHIYO-KICHI-KUN, I SAW HIM HEADING TO THE PRIVY..


HM?

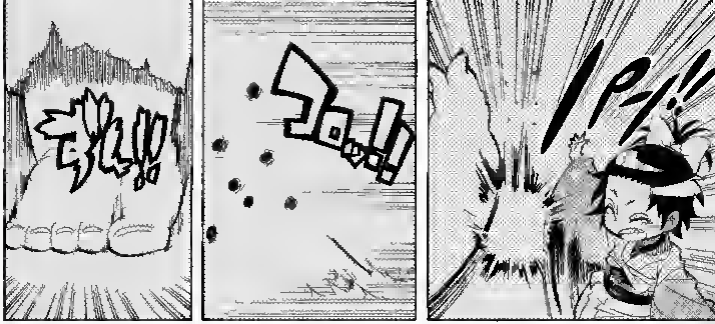

BE SURE TO THANK CHIYO-CCHI AS WELL!!
EH HE HE HE!
THANK YOU, SHINO-CHAN!

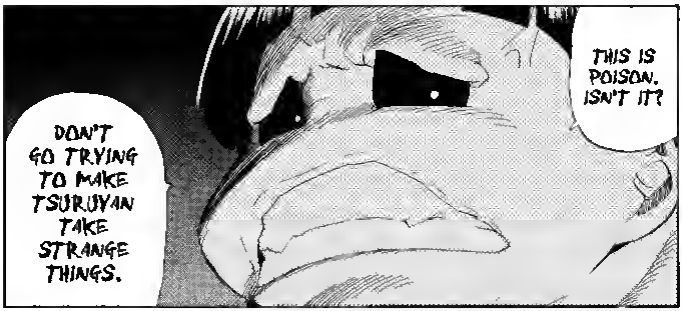
I THOUGHT THAT THOSE RONIN DIDN'T TAKE ANY...
BUT THE NUMBER OF NANANA PILLS SEEMS TO HAVE DECREASED A LOT...


UUUH! UUGH...
ISN'T THIS GUY...
ONE OF THOSE RONIN ...?
HEY, YOU BE-HIND ME!!
I WAS STARTING TO THINK NO ONE WOULD COME!
SORRY, BUT DO YOU THINK YOU COULD PULL ME OUT OF HERE?

OW, OW, OW! MY SKIN'LL TEAR!! IT'S GONNA COME OFF!!
I'D LIKE A LESS BLOODY WAY TO LOSE WEIGHT!
GRRR AAAA AAH!!
BY THE WAY, ARE YOU A SAMURAI?
I'M NOT, BUT...
BUT THANKS. THIS IS A BIG HELP.
I WAS STARTING TO THINK I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO ENTER IN THE MATCH.
I SEE...
OUR OPPONENT... IT LOOKS LIKE THAT USAGI DOJO HAS SOME-ONE LIKE THAT TOO
A PEASANT CHILD CARRYING A HOE
!!
TO ACCEPT HIM AS A DISCIPLE... I'M SURE THEY MUST BE PLAYING A TRICK ON THAT KID.

SO I HOPE THAT...
I WON'T END UP FIGHTING HIM...
.....
YOU'RE WRONG !!!
...IS WHAT I THINK!!
REALLY?
BUT I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST PEASANTS, ANYWAY.
PEOPLE LIKE YOU
REALLY NEED TO BE CAREFUL AROUND SAMURAI
YOU WILL!?
THANK YOU. YOU'RE SO KIND.
I'LL GO ASK SOMEONE STRONGER TO HELP YOU!!
SET TSU
SO I...
AN ENEMY LIKE THAT TRIED TO GIVE TSURUYAN MEDICINE.
EVEN JUST NOW, A STRANGE WOMAN CAME BY CLAIMING TO BE SOMETHING LIKE "THE WIFE OF USAGI DOJO'S HEAD INSTRUCTOR."


ドクン!!
コロッ!!
パク!!


THIS IS POISON, ISN'T IT?
DON'T GO TRYING TO MAKE TSURUYAN TAKE STRANGE THINGS.

……

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BAD IF I HADN'T STOPPED HER.
……

WE HARVESTED A WHOLE BUNCH, HUH!!
BUT WITH THIS, WE FINALLY HAVE ENOUGH FOR FIVE PEOPLE'S WORTH!!
NOW WE JUST HAVE TO BOIL IT ALL DOWN!!
EH HE HE HE!
WE'RE FINALLY DONE, CHIYO-CCHI!!
THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP, SHINO-SAN!!
THE MATCH IS TOMOR-ROW.
SO I'M GOING TO STAY WITH MARO IN HIS ATTIC ROOM!
OKAY! GOOD-NIGHT!!

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!!
I'M ASKING WHAT'S IT'S FOR!!
I WENT AND HARVESTED SOME MORE!!
EH HE HE HE!
EH!!? FOR THE OPPOSING SIDE-
YOU CAN'T! THEY'RE OUR ENEMIES!!
I WAS THINKING I'D MAKE ENOUGH FOR THE OPPOSING SIDE AS WELL!!
BUT...
OF COURSE, I'LL BE CHEERING FOR ALL OF YOU!
SHINO-SAN...
WHAT ON EARTH IS THIS ...?
GETTING INJURED IS VERY PAINFUL!!
THIS IS THE SAME FOR EVERYONE!!

EHEHEHE, THANK YOU!
DON'T WORRY, THOUGH! I CAN MANAGE ON MY OWN!!
UNTIL THE MATCH STARTS, I'LL HELP TOO!!
.....
!!
!!
REALLY, THOSE SAMURAI
DOING THINGS LIKE THAT IS WHAT MAKES THEM THE WORST
ギリ…
ギリ…
OUCH, OUCH, OUCH!!
IT'S A BIT TOO MUCH!!
WOW, WHAT STRENGTH!
SO YOU CALLED SOMEONE ELSE AFTER ALL!!
BUT IT'S A BIT-

THE MAINSTAY SECOND IN COMMAND GENERAL...

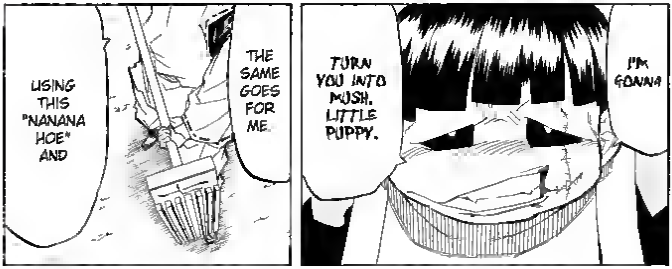
AH!
……
ハアッ…
ハアッ…

WHICH ONE ARE YOU!!?
... HMPH. IN THE END, YOU'RE ALSO...
JUST A PUPPY WHO WAGS HIS TAIL FOR THE SAMURAI...
NOW THEN ...
LET US BEGIN THE THIRD ROUND !!!
THE MAIN-STAY OF THE USAGI DOJO

AND FROM THE BEN-PEI-KAN IS...
UZURA-DONO!!!
CHIYO-KICHI-DONO!!!

EVEN IF I GET HURT, WITH THOSE NANANA PILLS-
I'LL BE OK!!
WITH THE MEDICINE YOU MADE, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, SHINO-SAN!!
.....
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, CHIYO-KICHI!!!
DO YOUR BEST, CHIYO-CCHI!!!!
BE CARE-FUL!!

I DONNO WHY, BUT CHIYOKICHI'S FIGHTING SPIRIT HAS GOTTEN HUGE ALL OF A SUDDEN.
YES ...THIS LOOKS PROMIS-ING...
YOU HURT
THE SKIN ON MY BACK, SO,


I'M GONNA
TURN YOU INTO MUSH, LITTLE PUPPY.
THE SAME GOES FOR ME.
USING THIS "NANANA HOE" AND

MY OWN SPECIAL FIGHTING STYLE,
I'LL HAVE YOU LOOKING LIKE A DEAD NANA HERB!!!

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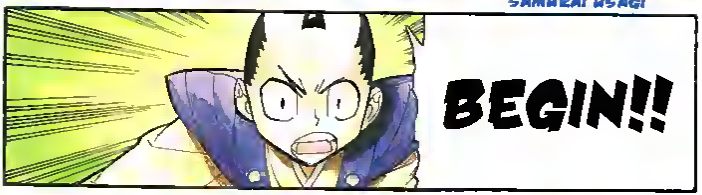
qrrbrbirlbel@hotmail.com

AND NOW, THIS DUEL BETWEEN SWORDSMEN WILL NOW...
連載一周年突破記念カラー!!
サムライうさぎ
SAMURAI USAGI


BEGIN!!

ダッ!!

AND NOW THIS DUEL BETWEEN SWORDSMEN WILL NOW..
CHAPTER FIFTY-FOUR: CHIYOKICHI VS UZURA

BEGIN!!

祝・連載一周年突破!
これからも
突き抜けて
進んでいきます!!!
ホムライズ
精兵一致
第五十四時
千代吉VSウズラ

CHAPTER FIFTY-FOUR: CHIYOKICHI VS UZURA

Yeah... what's the meaning of that, I wonder...
Hey, dad!! We weren't included in the previous page!!
I forgot to draw them in. Sorry...

ドガッ!!
A BRAT LIKE THIS WON'T BE ABLE TO LAND A SINGLE HIT ON ME!!
WELL, NOT THAT IT'D MATTER EVEN IF HE DID-
!!

ドゴ!!

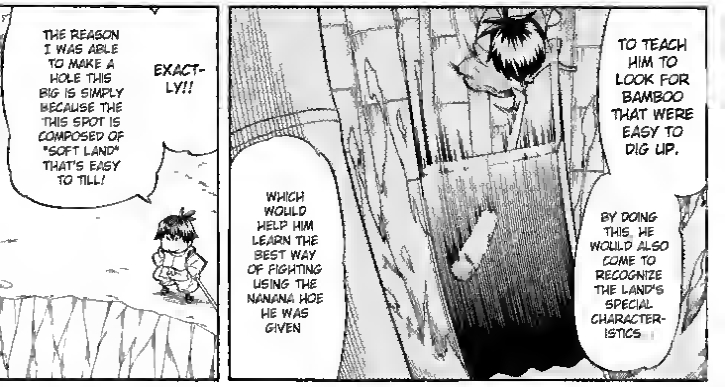
DURING TRAINING, KIYOHITO-SAMA SAID...
STRENGTH HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!

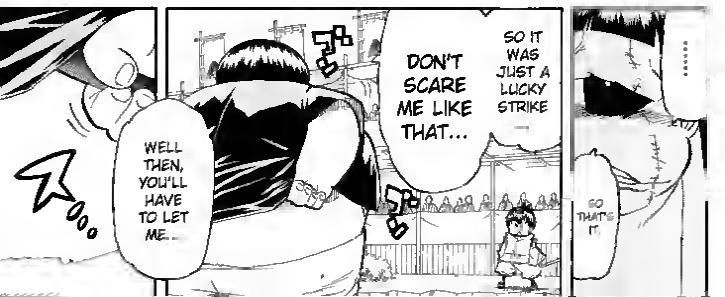
CHIYO-NEE!! HAD THAT KIND OF STRENGTH!?
WHAT ON...

IT'S NOT JUST THE LAND!!
YOUR ONLY FRIEND IS THE LAND.
I also have mina!!
YEAH... YOU'RE SOMEONE WHO'S ONLY FRIENDS ARE THE NUNA HERBS. IN OTHER WORDS...

I SEE TRAINING BY DIGGING UP THOSE BAMBOO SHOOTS...
WASN'T MEANT TO INCREASE HIS STRENGTH, BUT...
"THE LAND IS YOUR FRIEND"
IS WHAT KIYOHITO TAUGHT ME!!
WHAT!!? NO HONOR-IFICS!!?

TN: BEING OF A LOWER CLASS, CHIYOKICHI REFERS TO NEARLY EVERYONE IN THE SERIES WITH THE HONORIFIC "SAMA". BETTY-LI IS SHOCKED TO HEAR HIM SPEAKING INFORMALLY

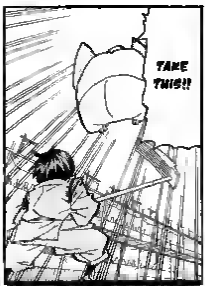

THE REASON I WAS ABLE TO MAKE A HOLE THIS BIG IS SIMPLY BECAUSE THE THIS SPOT IS COMPOSED OF "SOFT LAND" THAT'S EASY TO TILL!
EXACT-LY!!
WHICH WOULD HELP HIM LEARN THE BEST WAY OF FIGHTING USING THE NANANA HOE HE WAS GIVEN
TO TEACH HIM TO LOOK FOR BAMBOO THAT WERE EASY TO DIG UP.
BY DOING THIS, HE WOULD ALSO COME TO RECOGNIZE THE LAND'S SPECIAL CHARACTER-ISTICS

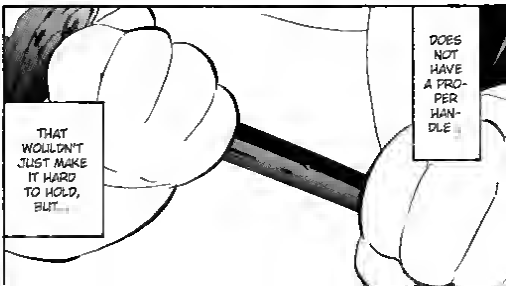


GIVE IT A TRY TOO.

HE'S RIGHT ABOUT THAT...
BUT THAT KATANA...

...A KATA-NA!!
THAT'S SURPRI-SING...
TO THINK THAT HIS SPECIALTY WEAPON WOULD BE ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTABLE ONES


TAKE THIS!!!


DOES NOT HAVE A PRO-PER HAN-DLE...
THAT WOULDN'T JUST MAKE IT HARD TO HOLD, BUT...

ヒュッ!!
THIS GUY ...
IS A LOT FASTER THAN HE LOOKS !!!
LET'S MAKE A PROMISE !!!
IF I WIN THIS MATCH, THEN...
YOU HAVE TO SAY "I'M SORRY FOR FOLLOWING THE ORDERS OF SAMURAI WITHOUT QUESTION"...
AND APO-LOGIZE!!!

MAS-
TER!!
The sword will not be!
ON TOP OF BEING FAST, HE'S JUST AS STRONG AS HE LOOKS.
I'D BETTER KEEP MY DISTANCE...
REN-
PEIKAN MAIN-
STAY!!
TRY TO BE A BIT MORE CARE-
FUL-
SFX: GIRO!! - GLARE
.....

WHERE ARE YOU LOOKING?
WE'RE NOT FINISHED YET.
FINE, I'LL AGREE TO THAT PROMISE-
SINCE THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO LOSE!
TAKE THIS!!
MY SPECIAL MOVE THAT'S EVEN COOLER THAN MARO'S...
NA-NANA STYLE HOE TECH-NIQUE
RAIN OF STONES !!!!

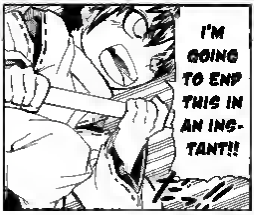
UGH UH!!!
DAMN IT...
SO HE DOESN'T PLAN ON LETTING ME GET CLOSE, HHH...
HMPH!! EVEN I CAN DO...
A MOVE LIKE THAT!!
RAIN OF STONES!
ドド!!
HUH?
しーん...
TOO BAD FOR YOU!!
UNLESS YOU'RE STANDING RIGHT HERE WHERE I AM...

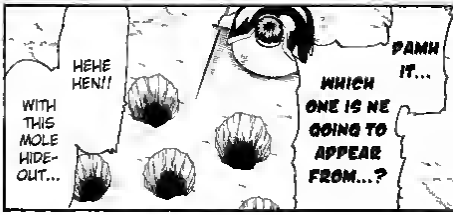
THERE'S NO WAY A PERSON WHO'S USELESS WORKING IN A FIELD WOULD BE ABLE TO HIT ANY STONES!!!
CHIYO-CCHI IS GREAT!!
THE RAIN OF STONES HAS BECOME A DOWN-POUR!!!
I'LL ADMIT IT'S GOOD, BUT...
TO SAY IT'S COOLER THAN ELDER BROTHER'S TECHNIQUE IS A BIT OF A STRETCH-
JUST GO HOME ALREADY, JEEZ!!!
TCH ... SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS ...
URYYY

はっ!!
CHIYO-CCHI!!!!
CHI-YOKI-CHI!!!!
ズゥゥン!!!
GU FU FU ...
HE MUST HAVE BEEN SQUA-SHED FLAT ...

HUH?
WHERE DID THIS HOLE COME FROM!!?
WHY YOU-
OVER HERE!!
ドカッ!!

MOLE HIDE-OUT!!!
NA-NANA STYLE HOE TECH-NIQUE
I'm here huh?
Here I am!
I'm right here.
What's happening?
Over here!!


I'M GOING TO END THIS IN AN INSTANT!!


HEHE HEH!!
WITH THIS MOLE HIDE-OUT...
DAMN IT...
WHICH ONE IS HE GOING TO APPEAR FROM...?

I KNEW THAT IF I WAITED AT THE SAME SPOT LONG ENOUGH, YOU'D EVENTUALLY...
I'M A BIT BRIGHTER THAN SUZUME-CCHI.
!!!

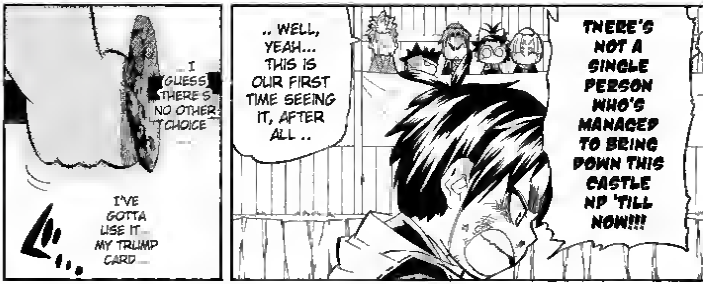
AS IF!
WHA?

COME OUT!!
GAH ...!
HA!!
HA!!
THIS IS BAD..
LOOKS LIKE IT BACK-FIRED ON HIM...
CHI-YOKI-CHI!!!!
GUFU FU..IT LOOKS LIKE
THE ONE WHO'S GONNA END THIS IS ME!
...I WON-DER
ABOUT THAT!
WHAT DID YOU SAY!?

バサッ!!!
THE GROUND BROKE APART!!
THAT CHIYO-KICHI... WHAT ON EARTH DID HE...
THERE'S MORE TO THAT MOVE THAN GIVING ME A PLACE TO HIDE!!
I ALSO CARVED THIS OUT FROM THE LAND BELOW!!
ドヤ!!
!!!
UU!!

SFX DONANANAN!!!

WHAT THE-
FROM THE EARTH, A CASTLE HAS...
UNLESS YOU ASSAULT THIS EARTHLY NANANA CASTLE WITH EVERY-THING YOU HAVE...
YOU WON'T STAND A CHANCE!!


THERE'S NOT A SINGLE PERSON WHO'S MANAGED TO BRING DOWN THIS CASTLE NP 'TILL NOW!!!
.. WELL, YEAH... THIS IS OUR FIRST TIME SEEING IT, AFTER ALL ..
I GUESS THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE
I'VE GOTTA USE IT... MY TRUMP CARD...

..IN THAT CASE, I'LL HAVE TO BECOME THE FIRST PERSON..
TO BRING IT DOWN.
GR RR RR RR RR RH !!!

!!
STEAM?
ゴッショウ!!!
WELL THEN, WITH THIS...
I'LL BE MY WIN.
HE'S GOTTEN THIN!!!

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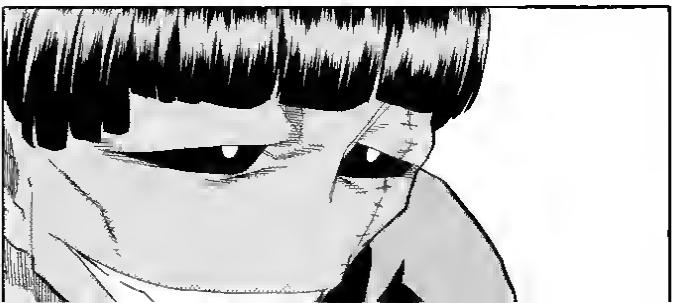
CHAPTER FIFTY-FIVE:
THE OFFENSE AND DEFENSE OF NANANA CASTLE

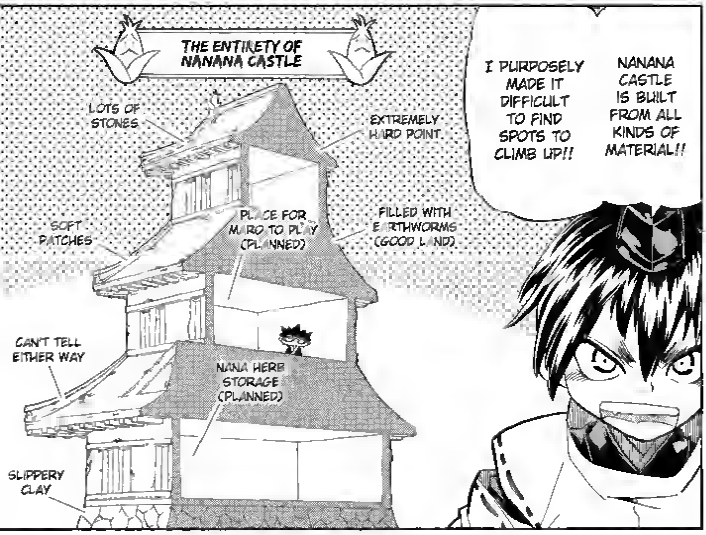
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS!!
WHA-
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU!?



BEFORE YOU DO THAT, THERE'S ONE THING I WANT TO SAY.
FOR STARTERS I'M GOING TO CLIMB ALL THE WAY UP THERE
IT MEANS I'VE BECOME MORE NIMBLE
YOU'D BETTER BE PREPARED
...YOU'RE TELLING ME TO APOLOGIZE TO THAT WOMAN?
I PROMISED I WOULD APOLOGIZE IF YOU WON,
SO YOU HAVE TO PROMISE TO DO SOMETHING IF I WIN!!
WOULDN'T MAKE SHINO-SAN HAPPY AT ALL!!
FORCING SOMEONE TO BOW THEIR HEAD TO HER
THAT'S WHY
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I HAVE NO INTENTION OF BOWING MY HEAD TO SOMEONE FROM A SAMURAI HOUSEHOLD.
NO WAY
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!!!

IF I WIN, YOU HAVE TO TAKE THOSE "NANANA PILLS"!!
SINCE YOU'RE ABOUT TO BE SERIOUSLY INJURED!!
MAKING FUN OF ME, HUH..
LET'S GO!!!
NOW! AMAZ-ING!!
HE JUMPED TO THE ROOF OF THE FIRST FLOOR IN ONE TRY-

WHA-WHAT IS THIS!!?
TOO BAD! THAT SPOT IS MADE UP OF SOFT LAND!!
ズボ!!!
!!?


THE ENTIRETY OF NANANA CASTLE
LOTS OF STONES
EXTREMELY HARD POINT
SOFT PATCHES
PLACE FOR MARIO TO PLAY (PLANNED)
FILLED WITH EARTHWORMS (GOOD LAND)
CAN'T TELL EITHER WAY
NANA HERB STORAGE (PLANNED)
SLIPPERY CLAY
I PURPOSELY MADE IT DIFFICULT TO FIND SPOTS TO CLIMB UP!!
NANANA CASTLE IS BUILT FROM ALL KINDS OF MATERIAL!!

AND WHILE YOU'RE STUCK DOWN THERE..
D-DAMN IT!

I'LL BE ATTACKING FROM UP HERE!!!
LIKE THIS... I'M GOING TO BE IN TROUBLE BEFORE I EVEN MANAGE TO CLIMB UP THERE...
GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED
KUH ...
I'LL SHOW IT TO YOU ...!!
HMPF !!!
THE POWER OF THE THIN ME...
STAB-BING WITH A KATANA WON'T
WHAT'S HE DOING ...?

...THE CASTLE LAND
FEELS WEIRD SOME-HOW...
ザラ…
!
GRRRRRR…
!!?
H!!-
アッ!!!

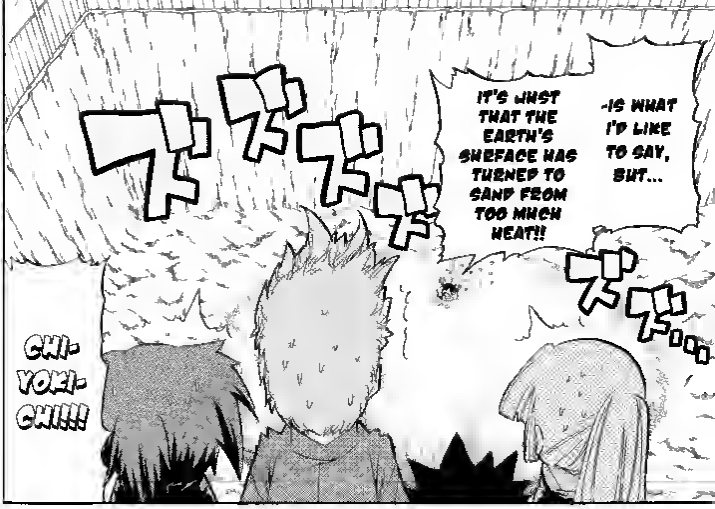
PUEH!!
BLEH!!
WHAT DID YOU DO!!?
I HAVEN'T JUST GOTTEN THINNER.
CREATING HEAT BY BURNING OFF MY OWN FAT IS A SPECIAL SKILL OF MINE.
BY SENDING HEAT THROUGH THE DIRT TO RELEASE ALL THE MOISTURE IN IT,
I'VE TURNED IT ALL INTO LOOSE SAND.
SO HE'S CAPABLE OF DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
SO THE REASON HIS KATANA HAS NO HANDLE ...
IS SO HE CAN TRANSFER HEAT INTO IT, HUH...

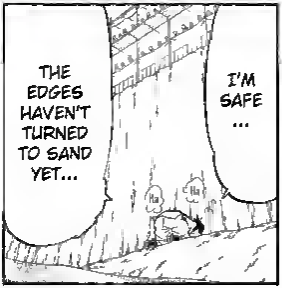
YOU'RE TELLING ME TO TAKE SOME MEDICINE THAT LOOKS LIKE RABBIT SHIT!!?
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT I WOULDN'T WANT TO!! NOT WHEN IT WAS MADE BY THOSE SAMURAI!!!
HE'S FAST !!!
GAH !!!
YAH!!!
!!!
DAMN IT...
IT'S ...HURA-ING HOT ...

YOU IDIOT !!!
GWA AAAA AAAA AAAA AAAA AA!!!
IT'S NOT THE KATANA THAT'S HOT!!
HURRY UP AND FORFEIT!
I'M GETTING THAT APOLOGY!
... SHUT UP!
I'M GONNA MAKE YOU...
TAKE THOSE NANANA PILLS FOR SURE!
CHIYO-CCHI...

"THE DEMON'S PIT"!!!
NANANA STYLE ULTIMATE HOE TECHNIQUE!!!!!

IS THIS ANOTHER ONE OF CHIYO-KICHI'S MOVES !!?
THE WHOLE SURFACE IS TURNING TO SAND...!


ズズズズ
IT'S JUST THAT THE EARTH'S SURFACE HAS TURNED TO SAND FROM TOO MUCH HEAT!!
-IS WHAT I'D LIKE TO SAY, BUT...
ズズ...
CHI- YOKI- CHI!!!!


THE EDGES HAVEN'T TURNED TO SAND YET...
I'M SAFE ...

HA
HA
BU WA !!!

!

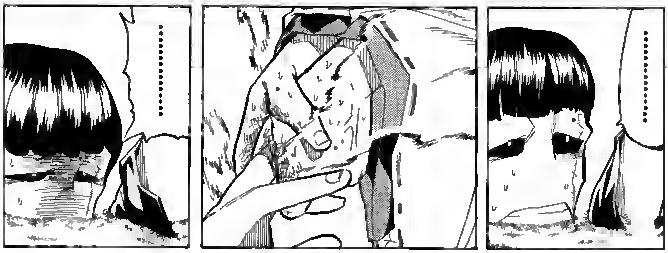
I'M GONNA PUT AN END TO THIS!!!
OOPS- THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE LETTING MY GUARD DOWN!!

DAMN IT... THANKS TO THAT BRAT GOING ON AND ON...
I WENT AND LET MYSELF GET TOO HOT...
SINK...
ズル...
THE MORE I MOVE, THE DEEPER I...
ズル...
AT THIS RATE, I'M GOING TO LOSE-
NO, IT'S MORE THAN JUST THAT-
ズル...
I'LL D...

ドゴォ!!

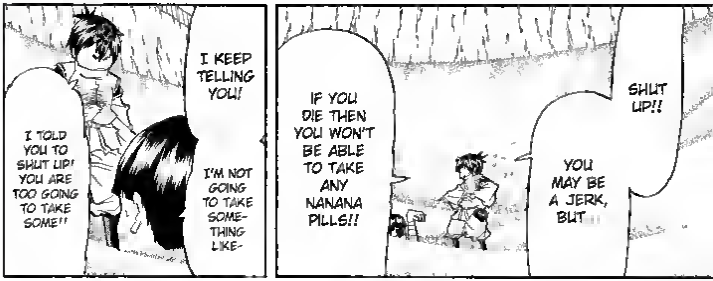
!!!

ﾖｭｳｳｳ...
WE HAVE TO... WHEEW HP...AND SETTLE THIS...!
HNN NNN NNG!

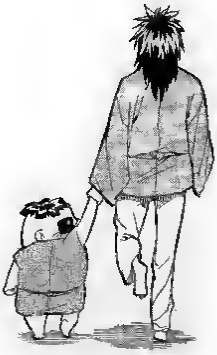

.....
.....
.....

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
YOU'VE GOTTEN EVEN HOTTER THAN BEFORE!!
SHUT UP!!!
HOT !!!
ｼﾞｭｯ!!

DON'T TOUCH ME!!
YOU'RE JUST A FILTHY ALLY OF THE SAMURAI!!!
QUIT ACTING LIKE A GOOD KID, YOU DAMN BRAT!!
.....


SHUT UP!!
YOU MAY BE A JERK, BUT...
IF YOU DIE THEN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE ANY NANANA PILLS!!
I KEEP TELLING YOU!
I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE SOME-THING LIKE-
I TOLD YOU TO SHUT UP! YOU ARE TOO GOING TO TAKE SOME!!

BECAUSE ONCE YOU TAKE SOME...
YOU'LL DEFINITELY FEEL LIKE APOLOGIZING TO SHINO-SAN!!!



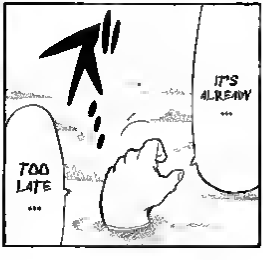
ASUKA

ズンっ!!

CHI-YOKI-CHI!!!!
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT BASTARD THINKING!?

GUH!!

.....


TOO LATE ...
ズ!!
IT'S ALREADY ...

JUST WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TRYING TO SAVE...?
ズズ...
FOR THE UNDERLING OF A SAMURAI LIKE YOU...

CHIYO-KICHI!!
DON'T TELL ME HE'S-
!!!
THIS IS THE SAME FOR EVERY-ONE!!
GETTING INJURED IS VERY PAINFUL!
ばっ!!
CHI-YOKI-CHI!!!!

SAMURAI USAGI SCANLATION

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suscanlation.blogspot.ca

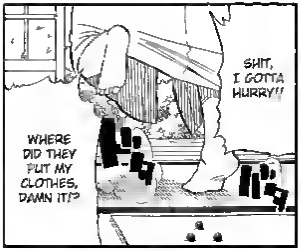
FOR ANY IN-DEPTH INQUIERES, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME PERSONALLY THROUGH E-MAIL.

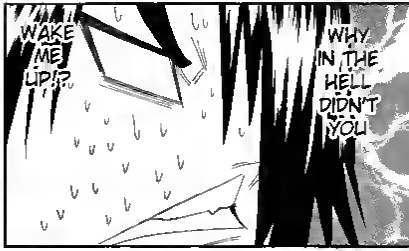
qrrbrbirlbel@hotmail.com

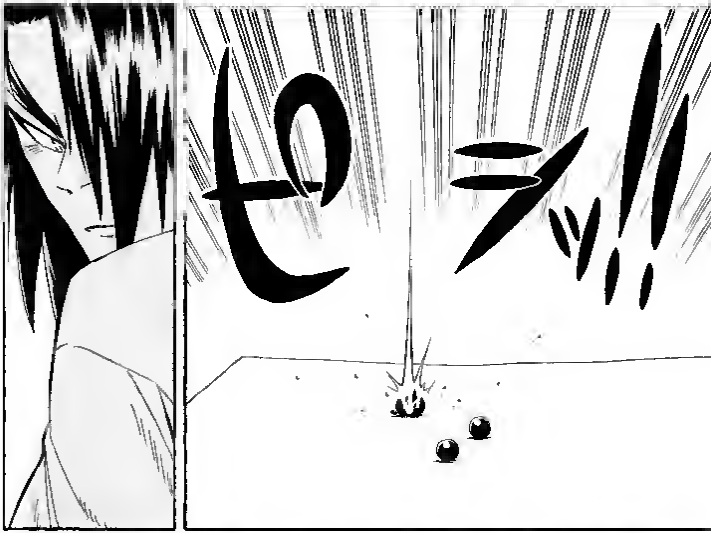
CHAPTER FIFTY-SIX:
THE THING THAT WAS GRASPED

T/N: I FIND IT INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT SHINO'S LETTER IS WRITTEN ENTIRELY IN HIRAGANA. THIS IS IN LINE WITH TRADITIONAL STANDARDS OF THE TIME WHEREIN ONLY MEN OF STATUS WERE TAUGHT THE DIFFICULT CHINESE CHARACTERS ADAPTED INTO THE JAPANESE CULTURE (AKA KANJI). SO IT WAS THE NORM FOR WOMEN AND PEASANTS TO ONLY KNOW HIRAGANA, THE SIMPLER FORM OF WRITING.

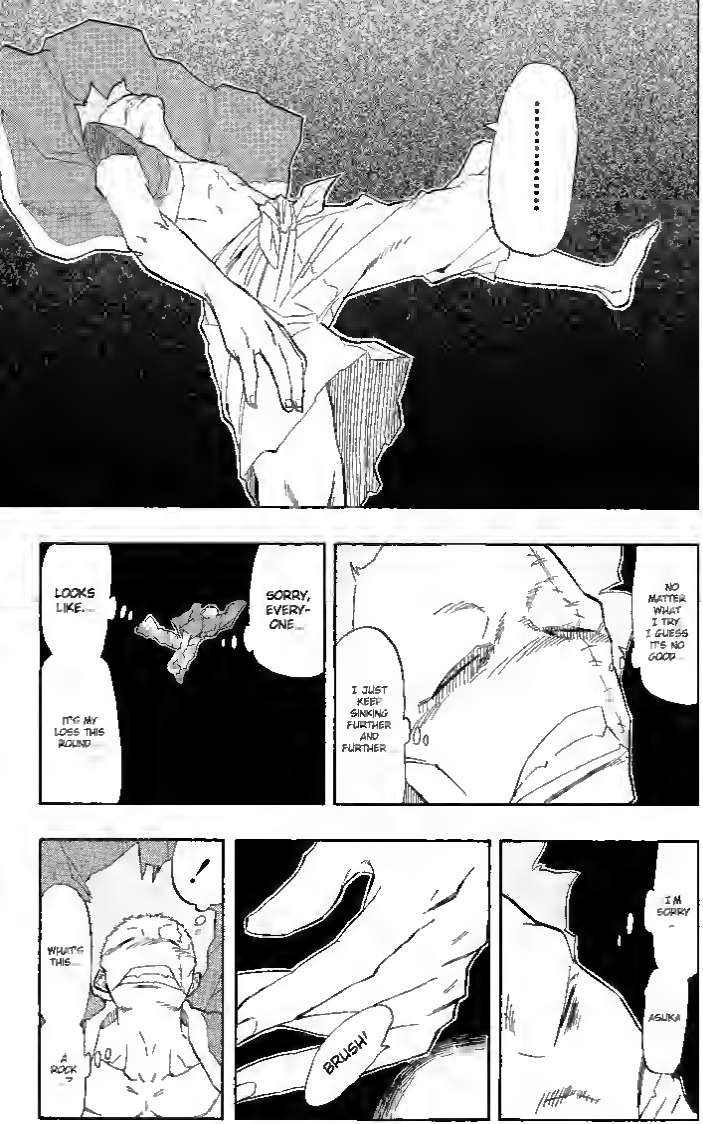
EVERYONE HAS GONE TO ATTEND THE MATCH. STAY IN BED UNTIL YOU'RE FEELING BETTER, AND BE SURE TO TAKE SOME OF THE MEDICINE MADE CHIYOKICHI AND I TOGETHER!
SHINO
...HM?
JEEZ, WHAT A HASSLE...
JUST HOW LONG DOES HE GOTTA SLEEP BEFORE HE'S SATISFIED?
GOS-SAN!
GOS-SAN!!
YOU STILL ASLEEP?



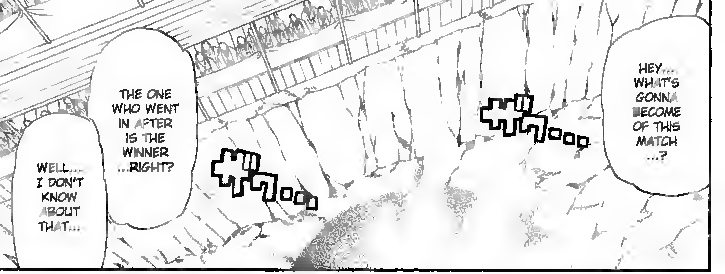




T/N: TO HAVE AN OBJECT SPLIT IN HALF WITHOUT EXPLANATION (MORE TYPICALLY A BOWL OR CUP) IS CONSIDERED A BAD OMEN.

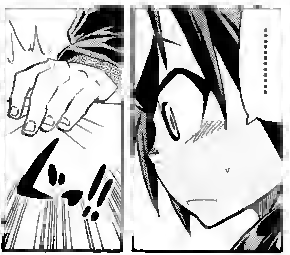

LOOKS LIKE...
SORRY, EVERY-ONE...
IT'S MY LOSS THIS ROUND...
I JUST KEEP SINKING FURTHER AND FURTHER...
NO MATTER WHAT I TRY, I GUESS IT'S NO GOOD...
!
WHAT'S THIS...
A ROCK?
BRUSH!
I'M SORRY...
ASUKA

NO ...!
IT'S A HAND
THIS HAND HAS BURN MARKS ON IT...
SO THAT KID...
SEEMS LIKE... HE CAN'T EVEN MOVE...
WHAT AN IDIOT...
CAME TO .. SAVE ME...
AND FOR WHAT ?


HEY... WHAT'S GONNA BECOME OF THIS MATCH ...?
THE ONE WHO WENT IN AFTER IS THE WINNER ...RIGHT?
WELL... I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT...

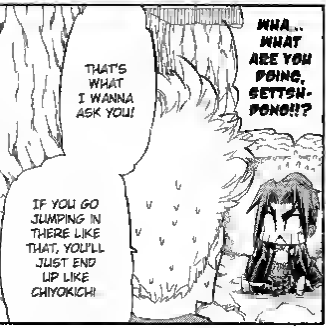
THEY'RE BOTH GOING TO BE IN TROUBLE SOON, AREN'T THEY?
THAT'S TRUE... IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE SINCE THEY WERE SWALLOWED UP BY THE SAND...
CHIYO-CCHI
CHIYO-KICHI-KUN...

GOC-CHIN !!!



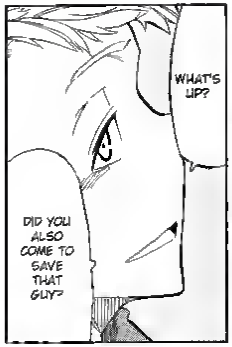
I'M GOING TO SAVE CHIYO-KICHI!!!
I CANNOT STAND BY ANY LONGER!!
HM!!? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THE MATCH HAS NOT ENDED YET!!
SORRY, BUT THAT'S JUST HOW IT IS!
.....
IT'S FINE!!
IF HE DIES THEN THERE WILL BE NO MEANING TO ANY OF THIS!!!
I- I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS. BUT IT MAY BE TOO SOON TO TELL IF THEY WILL COME OUT OR NOT—
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR DISCIPLES ONCE MORE BEFORE-
チラ…
THAT WILL BE FINE!!!
IF YOU LAY A HAND ON CHIYOKICHI-PONG, IT WILL BE YOUR LOSS! IS THAT ALRIGHT!!?
I-INTER-FERING IN THIS ROUND WILL BE OF NO USE!!

HERE I GO!!


WHA... WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SETTSU-DONO!!?
THAT'S WHAT I WANNA ASK YOU!
IF YOU GO JUMPING IN THERE LIKE THAT, YOU'LL JUST END UP LIKE CHIYOKICHI

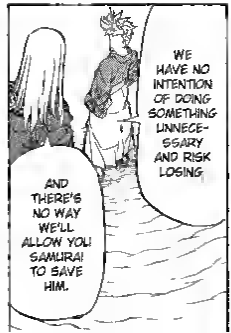
SWA!!
HOLD ON, GOSUKE-CHAN

SHI-SHINO-CHAN!!?
I'LL DO MY BEST!!!
AND SHINO WILL PULL YOU OUT AFTER-WARDS
YUP, YUP
OOH! GOOD THINK-ING!!
WE CAN DO THAT!!!

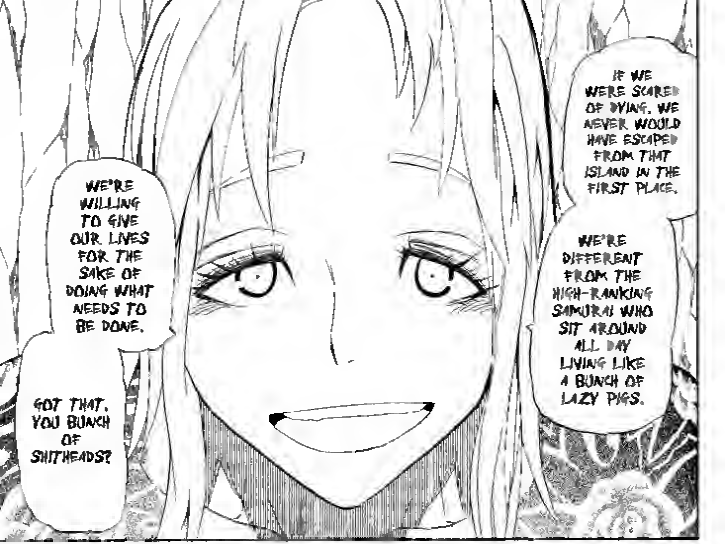

WHAT'S UP?
DID YOU ALSO COME TO SAVE THAT GUY?

I'M JUST HERE
TO MAKE SURE YOU PEOPLE DON'T DO ANYTHING STRANGE TO UZURA.

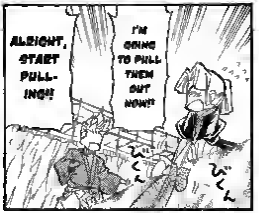
D'YOU REALLY THINK NOW IS THE BEST TIME TO BE SAY-ING THAT?

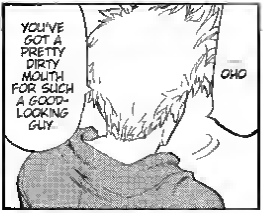

WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF DOING SOMETHING UNNECE-SSARY AND RISK LOSING
AND THERE'S NO WAY WE'LL ALLOW YOU SAMURAI TO SAVE HIM.

WE WON'T.
IF ANYTHING, WE'LL SAVE HIM TOO-
SHUT UP, ROOSTER HEAD.


IF WE WERE SCARED OF DYING, WE NEVER WOULD HAVE ESCAPED FROM THAT ISLAND IN THE FIRST PLACE.
WE'RE DIFFERENT FROM THE HIGH-RANKING SAMURAI WHO SIT AROUND ALL DAY LIVING LIKE A BUNCH OF LAZY PIGS.
WE'RE WILLING TO GIVE OUR LIVES FOR THE SAKE OF DOING WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.
GOT THAT, YOU BUNCH OF SHITHEADS?

HA!

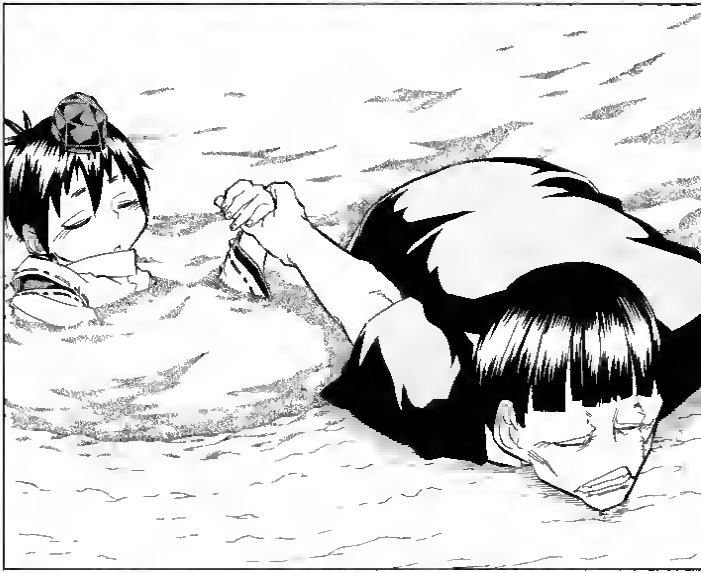

ALRIGHT, START PULLIN'!
I'M GOING TO PULL THEM OUT NOW!!
ぴくん


YOU'VE GOT A PRETTY DIRTY MOUTH FOR SUCH A GOOD-LOOKING GUY.
OHO

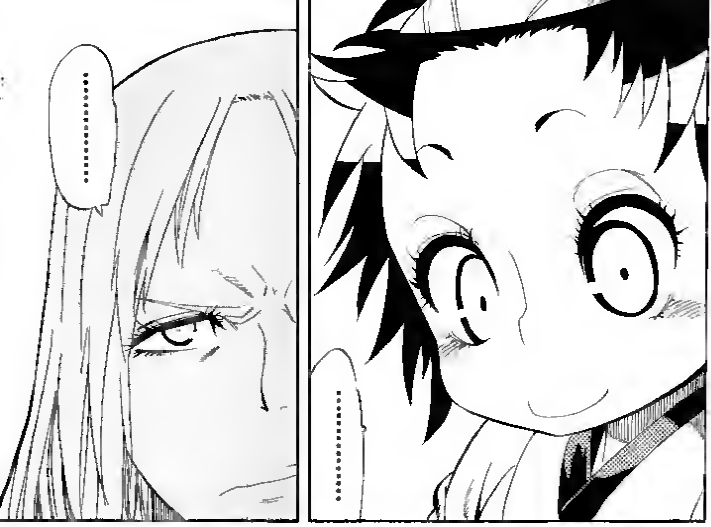
EVEN IF YOUR EYES ARE CLOSED, IT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS THAT THE BODY YOU GRABBED IS TOO LARGE, RIGHT!?
...CHIYO-KICHI?
SH-SHOULD I GO IN THIS TIME?

ズルっ!!

!!!



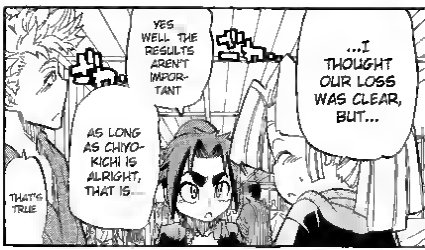
THIS IS A PRETTY SURPRISING TURN OF EVENTS!!
OOH!! CHIYO-KICHI!!



SFX: GYUU - SQUEEZE

SINCE BOTH COMPETITORS HAVE LOST CONSCIOUSNESS...
THIS ROUND IS A DRAW!
!!!

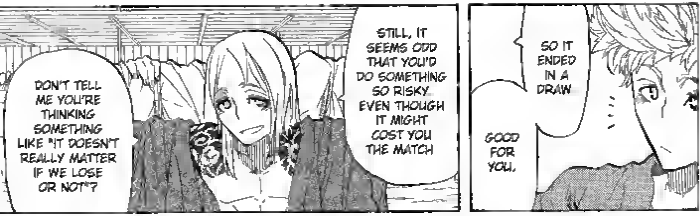
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, SETTSU-DONO!!
GUESS I'LL GO NEXT
OH WELL...


...I THOUGHT OUR LOSS WAS CLEAR, BUT...
YES WELL THE RESULTS AREN'T IMPORTANT
AS LONG AS CHIYO-KICHI IS ALRIGHT, THAT IS...
THAT'S TRUE

EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE NEVER WON A SINGLE MATCH!
DO YOUR BEST, BIG BRO!!
UH...
.....

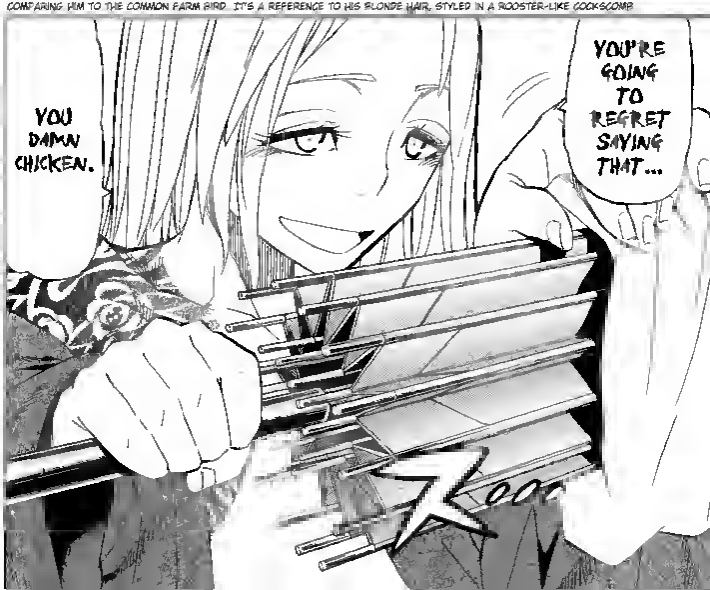
I'LL PROVE TO YOU
THAT MY RESOLVE ISN'T SOMETHING TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY AT THIS POINT.

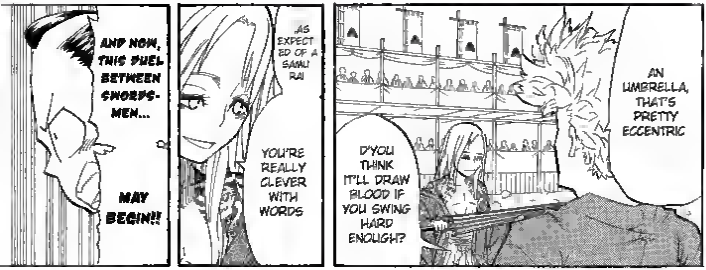
SECOND IN COMMAND FROM THE HOJO IS...
SETTSU MASA-YUKI-DONO!!!
AND FROM THE REN-PEI-KAN IS...
OOTORI-DONO!!!

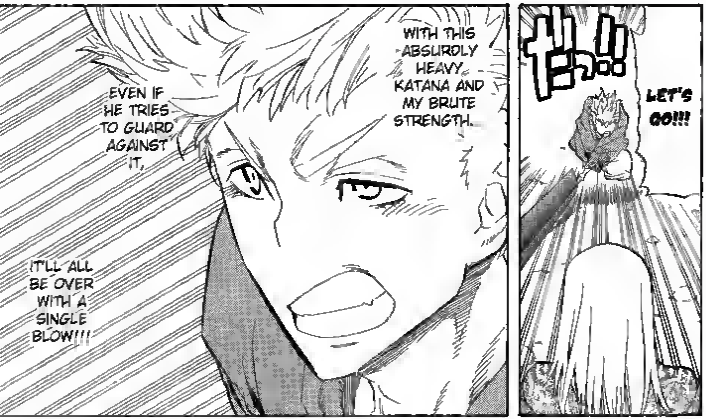

SO IT ENDED IN A DRAW
GOOD FOR YOU,
STILL, IT SEEMS ODD THAT YOU'D DO SOMETHING SO RISKY. EVEN THOUGH IT MIGHT COST YOU THE MATCH
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE THINKING SOMETHING LIKE "IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER IF WE LOSE OR NOT"?

WE'RE NOT FINE WITH LOSING,
BUT WE'RE NOT FINE WITH LETTING ONE OF OUR FRIENDS DIE, EITHER.
HMPH
ISN'T THAT STRANGE?
IT'S NOT STRA-NGE.

T/N: DOTOH! IS NOT CALLING SETTSU A COWARD (ALTHOUGH IT'D STILL MAKE SENSE IF HE WERE)- INSTEAD, HE'S LITERALLY COMPARING HIM TO THE COMMON FARM BIRD. IT'S A REFERENCE TO HIS BLONDE HAIR, STYLED IN A ROOSTER-LIKE COCKSCOMB



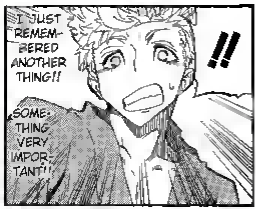

AND NOW, THIS DUEL BETWEEN SWORDSMEN...
MAY BEGIN!!
AS EXPECTED OF A SAMURAI
YOU'RE REALLY CLEVER WITH WORDS
AN UMBRELLA, THAT'S PRETTY ECCENTRIC
D'YOU THINK IT'LL DRAW BLOOD IF YOU SWING HARD ENOUGH?

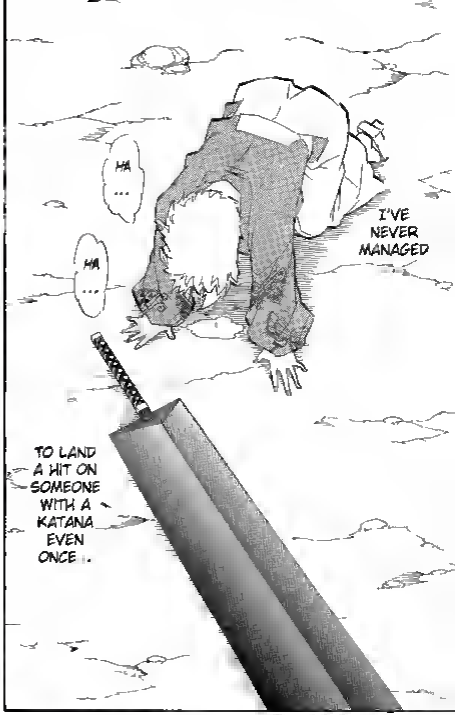

WITH THIS ABSURDLY HEAVY KATANA AND MY BRUTE STRENGTH.
EVEN IF HE TRIES TO GUARD AGAINST IT,
IT'LL ALL BE OVER WITH A SINGLE BLOW!!!
LET'S GO!!!

TEYA !!!
SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT.
I'VE JUST REMEMBERED...
HA !!!
RYA !!!

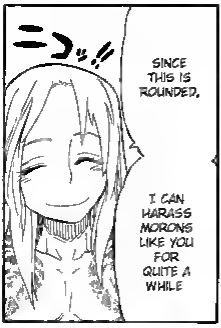
AHA HA!!
NOT TO MENTION THAT THIS ONE IS SO HEAVY...
WORN OUT ALREADY?

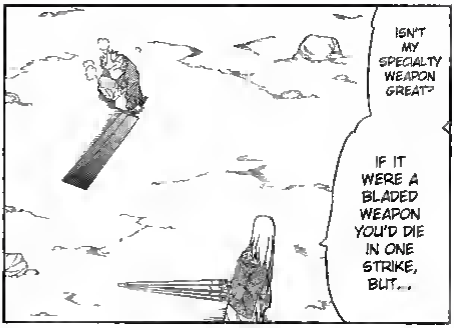
ﾀﾀｯ!!!

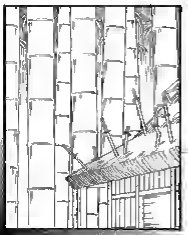

I JUST REMEMBERED ANOTHER THING!!
!!
SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT!!

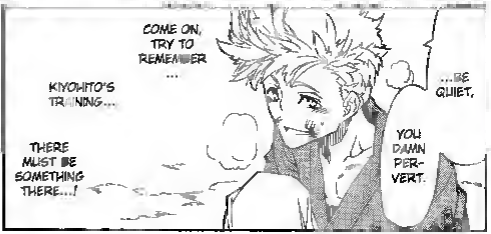

HA...
HA...
I'VE NEVER MANAGED
TO LAND A HIT ON SOMEONE WITH A KATANA EVEN ONCE.

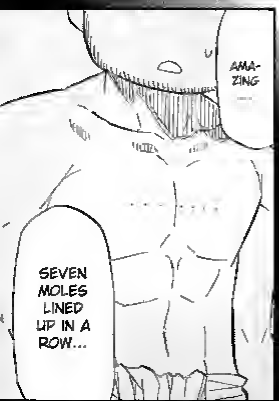
I'VE ALSO NEVER MANAGED
TO DODGE MY OPPONENTS' ATTACKS EVEN ONCE, EITHER!!
GAH-


SINCE THIS IS ROUNDED,
I CAN HARASS MORONS LIKE YOU FOR QUITE A WHILE


ISN'T MY SPECIALTY WEAPON GREAT?
IF IT WERE A BLADED WEAPON YOU'D DIE IN ONE STRIKE, BUT...




COME ON, TRY TO REMEMBER ...
KIYOHITO'S TRAINING...
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING THERE...!
...BE QUIET,
YOU DAMN PERVERT.


AMAZING...
SEVEN MOLES LINED UP IN A ROW...

!!!

HA HAHA! THAT'S TOO BAD, SENJI!
I HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO BET ON...

ALL I DID WAS A BUNCH OF POINTLESS CRAP, GOD DAMN IT!!!
ZIP
GWA AA!!
.....
I CAN'T GO BEATING MY ENTERTAINMENT INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SO I'M NOT SURE HOW MUCH STRENGTH I SHOULD USE
WHAT'S WITH
THAT LITTLE BAG...?

. LOOKS LIKE I PASSED OUT—
THAT MEDICINE IS SUPER BITTER ..
むくっ
BUT IT REALLY WORKS—
PER-FECTLY!
ALRIGHT, TIME TO GO!!
DON'T YOU DARE LOSE BEFORE I GET THERE!!!

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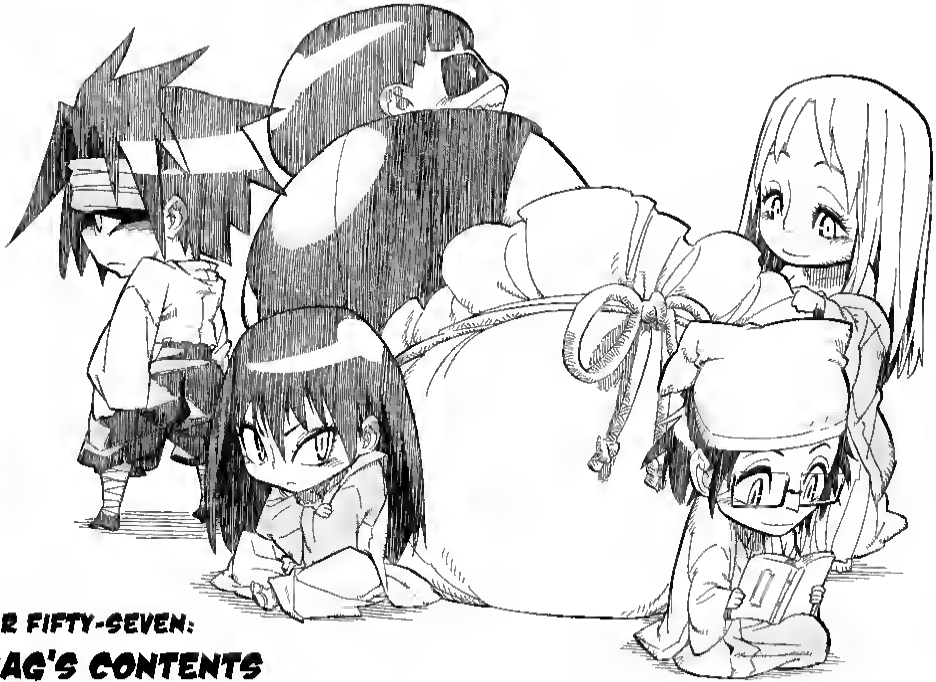
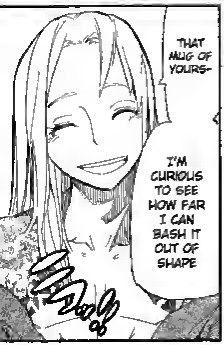
qrrbrbirlbel@hotmail.com

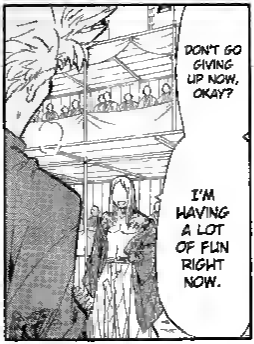
YOU OKAY, BIG BRO!!?
TCH...
DID YOU GET IT BACK, SHINO?
YOUR RABBIT DOLL
LET'S HURRY HOME!
I'LL FIX YOU UP, BIG BRO!!
GAH! OW, OW, OW...
THAT'S GOOD
WHAT A NASTY BUNCH OF KIDS...
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, BIG BRO!!
YUP!!
HMM
YEAH BUT...
I HOPE YOU GET STRONG QUICK AT THE HIGUMA DOJO!!
MY OPPONENTS MANAGED TO WHACK ME WITH THEIR STICKS AT EVERY TRY...
...BUT I DIDN'T MANAGE TO GET A SINGLE HIT IN WITH MY COUNTER-ATTACKS
YOU DIDN'T GET HURT, AFTER ALL
ISN'T IT FINE LIKE THIS?

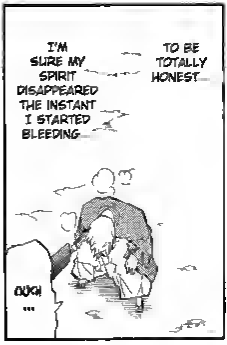


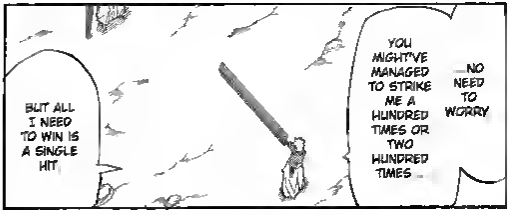
CHAPTER FIFTY-SEVEN:
THE BAG'S CONTENTS

HA AA
HA AA


THAT MUG OF YOURS-
I'M CURIOUS TO SEE HOW FAR I CAN BASH IT OUT OF SHAPE


DON'T GO GIVING UP NOW, OKAY?
I'M HAVING A LOT OF FUN RIGHT NOW.


TO BE TOTALLY HONEST
I'M SURE MY SPIRIT DISAPPEARED THE INSTANT I STARTED BLEEDING
UGH ...

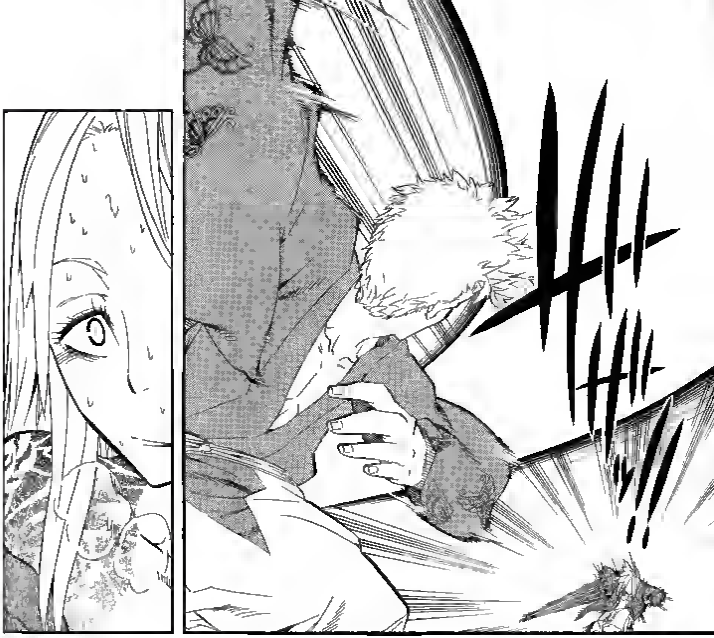

BUT ALL I NEED TO WIN IS A SINGLE HIT
YOU MIGHT'VE MANAGED TO STRIKE ME A HUNDRED TIMES OR TWO HUNDRED TIMES
NO NEED TO WORRY

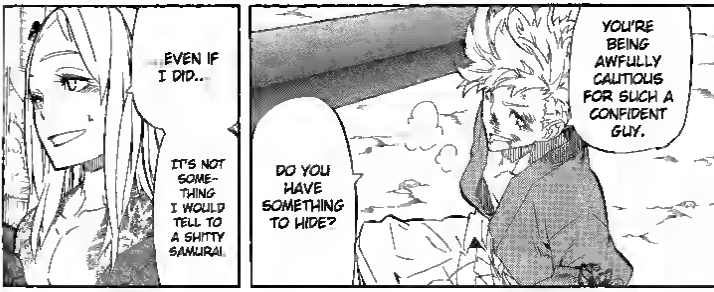
ドゴーッ!
.....
IS YOUR HEAD FULL OF MUSO?
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HIT ANYTHING WITH A KATANA LIKE THAT.
.....
THAT ATTACK
WERE YOU ABLE TO SEE IT, HONAMI-SAMA?
YES .. BUT...
BUT IN THE TIME IT WOULD TAKE ME TO REACT..
LANDING A BLOW WITH THAT HEAVY KATANA WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT

WHAT IF YOU OPENED YOUR EYES A BIT MORE?
UH...
I'VE ALREADY OPENED THEM AS MUCH AS I CAN, THOUGH...
H-HEY NOW, CHIYO-NICHI!!!!
...HE REALLY IS FAST...
IT WOULD NOT BE UNLIKELY FOR HIM TO BE THE FASTEST IN THEIR GRADE...
EVEN SO... THERE MUST BE SOME KIND OF OPENING...
WITH THAT KIND OF SPEED,
I'VE GOT YOU!!!
THE ONLY CHANCE I HAVE TO STRIKE HIM IS WHEN I'M GETTING HIT!!!
BUT...
UEG...
I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO LAND A BLOW...

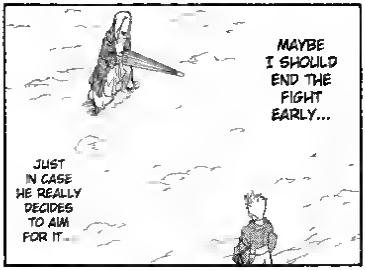
!!!
ﾀﾞﾝ!!
!!

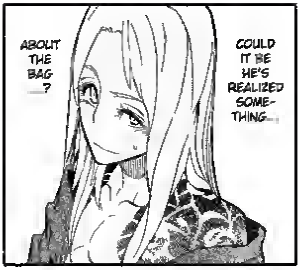
DAMN IT...
BY OPENING HIS UMBRELLA...!!
THAT BASTARD! HE SLOWED DOWN ALL OF A SUDDEN...
T/N: 'KAME' MEANS 'TURTLE'
!
RATHER THAN THE USAGI DOJO, HOW ABOUT YOU MAKE IT THE KAME DOJO INSTEAD?
AH HA HA!

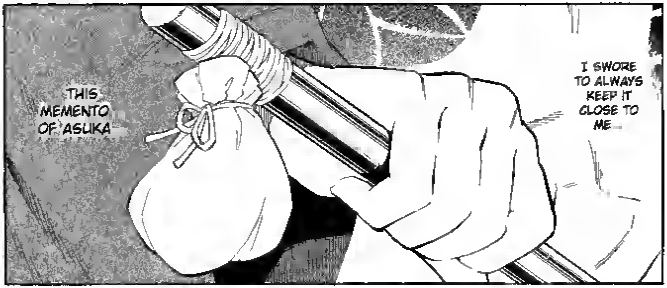

HH-!
HH-!
!!


EVEN IF I DID..
IT'S NOT SOME-THING I WOULD TELL TO A SHITTY SAMURAI.
DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO HIDE?
YOU'RE BEING AWFULLY CAUTIOUS FOR SUCH A CONFIDENT GUY.

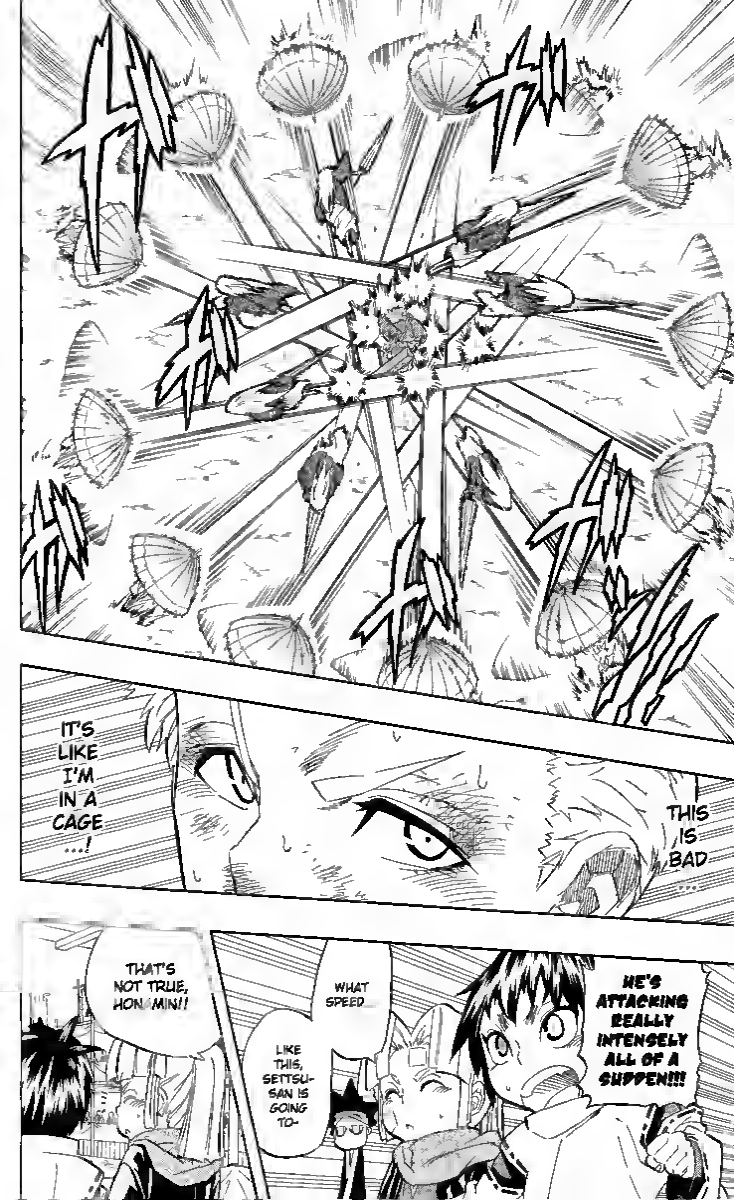
THAT'S TIED TO THE END OF HIS UMBRELLA HANDLE
DOES IT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT DIRTY BAG
THERE'S SOME-THING GOING ON HERE
WHAT'S WITH THAT?


MAYBE I SHOULD END THE FIGHT EARLY...
JUST IN CASE HE REALLY DECIDES TO AIM FOR IT...


ABOUT THE BAG...?
COULD IT BE HE'S REALIZED SOME-THING...


THIS MEMENTO OF ASUKA
I SWORE TO ALWAYS KEEP IT CLOSE TO ME...

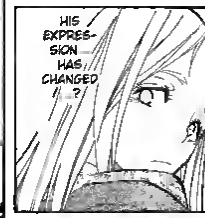
ゴッ!!
ガガッ!!
バキッ!!


IT'S LIKE I'M IN A CAGE...!
THIS IS BAD
THAT'S NOT TRUE, HON MIN!!
WHAT SPEED...
LIKE THIS, SEITSU-SAN IS GOING TO-
HE'S ATTACKING REALLY INTENSELY ALL OF A SUDDEN!!!

TODAY'S BIG BRO IS GOING TO STAB, DODGE,
AND WIN WITH A BANG!
H... HOW CAN YOU TELL, SHINO ...?
I CAN'T!
HUH !!?
S-BUT YOU JUST SAID ...!
THAT'S JUST WHAT I ALWAYS BELIEVED WOULD HAPPEN
WHILE I WAITED FOR HIM TO COME HOME EVERY DAY!!
.....
GO YOUR BEST, BIG BRO!!
!!!

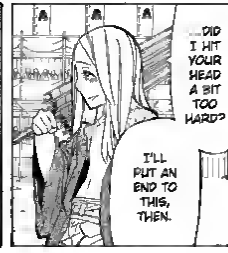
I'M ALREADY GIVING IT MY ALL
BUT IF YOU'RE GONNA MAKE A FACE LIKE THAT...
THEN I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO TRY EVEN HARDER, DAMN IT!!!
THINK!!
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING TO THAT TRAINING WORTH REMEMBER-ING ASIDES FROM THE MOLES

BUT EVEN ALL THAT WILL BE NOTHING COMPARED TO ONE HIT FROM THIS THING!
SO IN THE END, THAT'S MY ONLY OPTION, HUH...
KIYO-HITO, YOU DAMN JERK...


HIS EXPRES-SION... HAS CHANGED...?

ALRIGHT, LET'S DO THIS.
I'VE GOT NO CLUE HOW MANY TIMES I'VE BEEN HIT BY NOW...

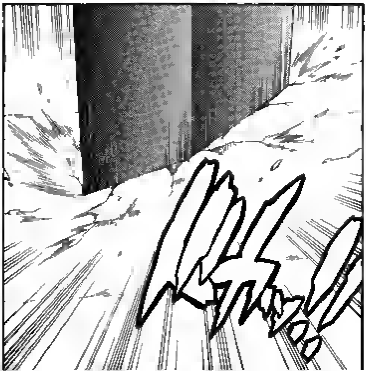
WHAT I NEEDED TO DO WAS...
TREAT MY FIGHTS LIKE GAMBLING AND I'D BE GOOD TO GO, IS THAT IT?


...DID I HIT YOUR HEAD A BIT TOO HARD?
I'LL PUT AN END TO THIS, THEN.

WHAT I CAN READ ISN'T THIS GUY'S FIGHTING STYLE OR BODY MOVEMENTS...
IT'S HIS ...
INNER THOUGHTS !!!
OOOOOH !!!
THAT SPEED- HOW ON EARTH-

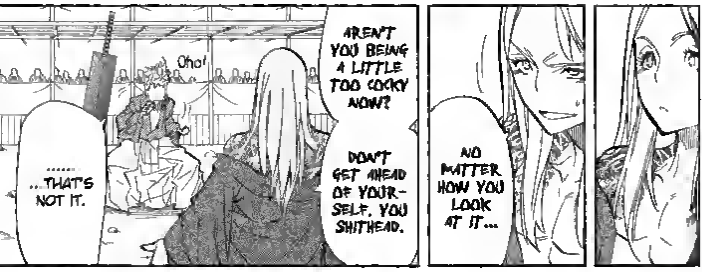
AH HA HA!!
THAT WAS QUITE A STROKE OF LUCK!!
FOUR OUT OF FIVE TIMES, HE'LL AIM FOR MY BEST FEATURE.
(My face, needless to say)
THIS GUY'S BAD HABITS ARE EASY TO SPOT.
!!?
IF NOT MY FACE, THEN IT'S MY FEET...
TO MAKE IT HARD FOR ME TO MOVE THE FOUL THOUGHTS GOING THROUGH HIS MIND MAKES HIM REALLY EASY TO READ.
...HE'S STARTING TO LOOK DESPERATE...
IS THE RETALIATION ON MY END GETTING TO HIM?
...NO.
TCH...
!?

THAT'S NOT IT... THIS GUY ...

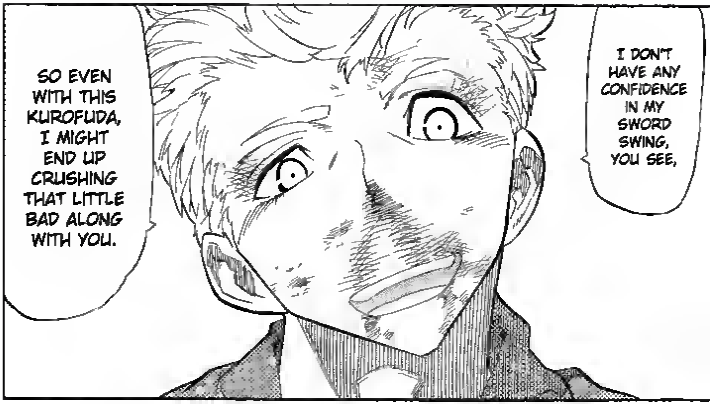


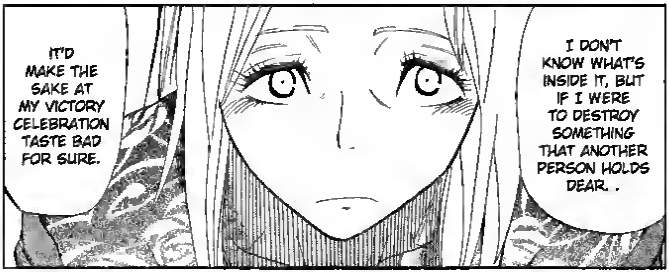
HE ALSO HAS SOMETHING TO PROTECT...

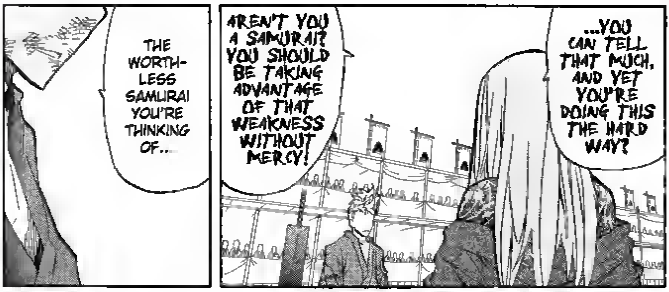
!!!
ALRIGHT!
COME ON!

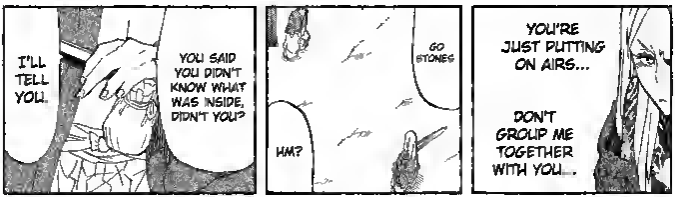

Oho!
AREN'T YOU BEING A LITTLE TOO COCKY NOW?
DON'T GET AHEAD OF YOURSELF, YOU SHITHEAD.
.....
..THAT'S NOT IT.
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...

TN: 'KUROFUDA' MEANS 'BLACK TALISMAN' AND IS THE NAME OF SETTSU'S NEW KATANA, INCASE ANYONE FORGOT!

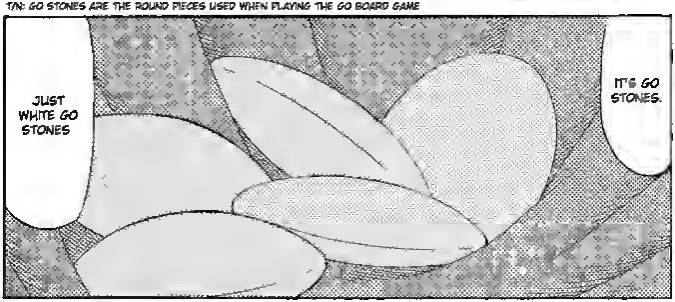

I DON'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE IN MY SWORD SWING, YOU SEE,
SO EVEN WITH THIS KUROFUDA, I MIGHT END UP CRUSHING THAT LITTLE BAD ALONG WITH YOU.


I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S INSIDE IT, BUT IF I WERE TO DESTROY SOMETHING THAT ANOTHER PERSON HOLDS DEAR. .
IT'D MAKE THE SAKE AT MY VICTORY CELEBRATION TASTE BAD FOR SURE.


...YOU CAN TELL THAT MUCH, AND YET YOU'RE DOING THIS THE HARD WAY?
AREN'T YOU A SAMURAI? YOU SHOULD BE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THAT WEAKNESS WITHOUT MERCY!
THE WORTH-LESS SAMURAI YOU'RE THINKING OF..


I'LL TELL YOU.
YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS INSIDE, DIDN'T YOU?
HM?
GO STONES
YOU'RE JUST PUTTING ON AIRS...
DON'T GROUP ME TOGETHER WITH YOU...

T/N: GO STONES ARE THE ROUND PIECES USED WHEN PLAYING THE GO BOARD GAME



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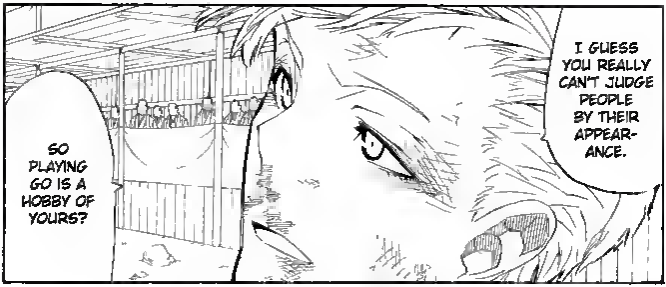
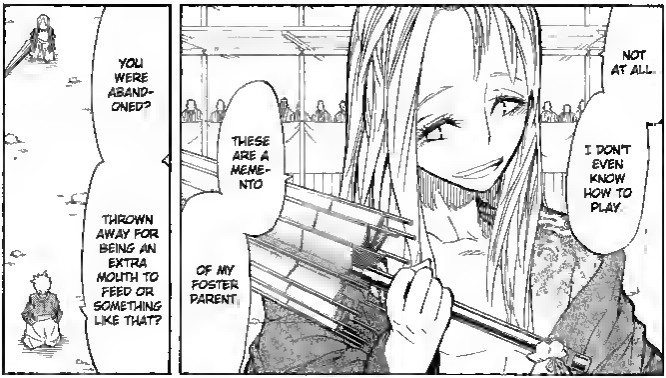
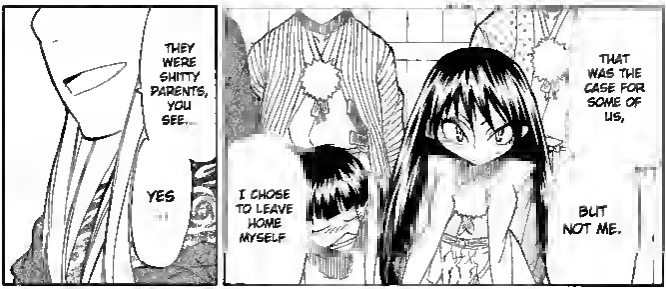
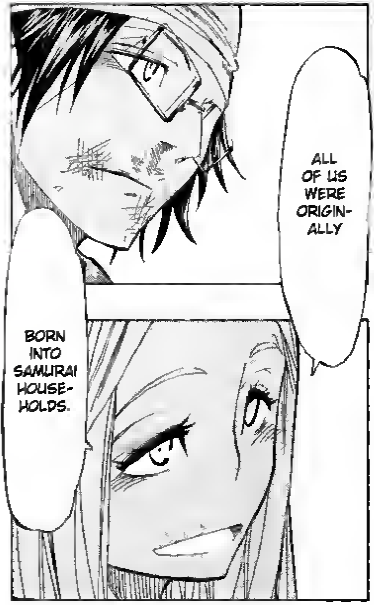
CHAPTER FIFTY-EIGHT:
THOSE WHO WERE ONCE SAMURAI

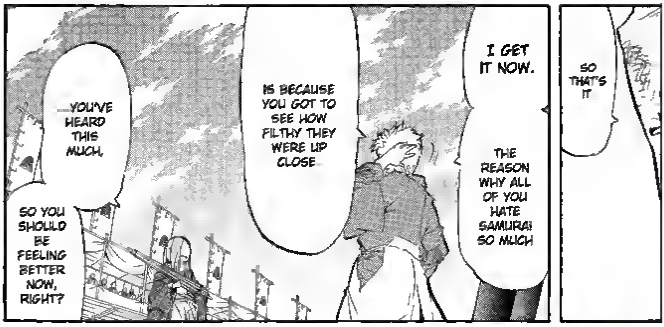


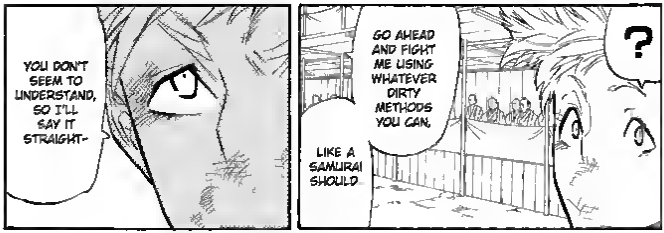

NOT AT ALL.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO PLAY.
THESE ARE A MEME-NTO
OF MY FOSTER PARENT.
YOU WERE ABAND-ONED?
THROWN AWAY FOR BEING AN EXTRA MOUTH TO FEED OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

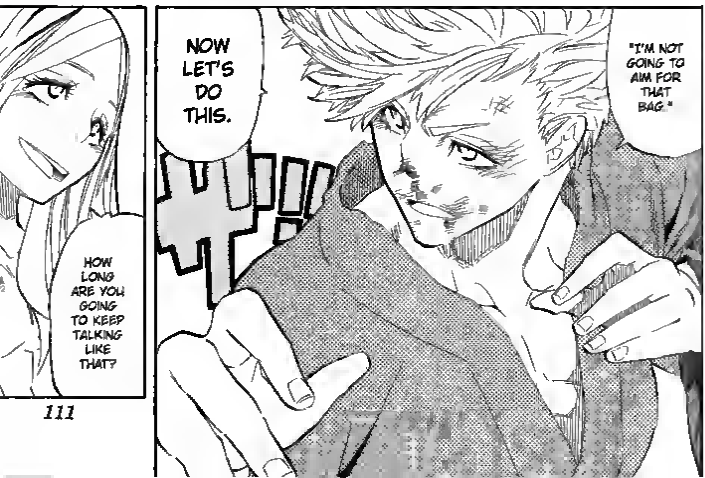




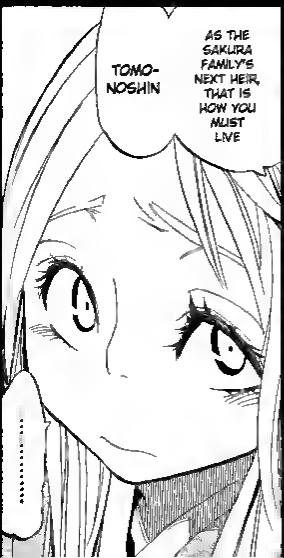
CHAPTER FIFTY-EIGHT: THOSE WHO WERE ONCE SAMURAI


SO THAT'S IT
I GET IT NOW.
THE REASON WHY ALL OF YOU HATE SAMURAI SO MUCH
IS BECAUSE YOU GOT TO SEE HOW FILTHY THEY WERE UP CLOSE.
...YOU'VE HEARD THIS MUCH.
SO YOU SHOULD BE FEELING BETTER NOW, RIGHT?


?
GO AHEAD AND FIGHT ME USING WHATEVER DIRTY METHODS YOU CAN,
LIKE A SAMURAI SHOULD
YOU DON'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND, SO I'LL SAY IT STRAIGHT-


"I'M NOT GOING TO AIM FOR THAT BAG."
NOW LET'S DO THIS.
!!!
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP TALKING LIKE THAT?

T/N: A THIS WAS A WELL-KNOWN SAYING AMONG NOBLES DURING THE EDO PERIOD.



AS A BUSHI, THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS TO BECOME AN ADULT.
HOWEVER, NOTHING WILL BE GAINED UNLESS YOU SQUEEZE THEM PROPERLY.
THESE WORDS ARE VERY TRUE.

T/N: OOTORI WAS BORN INTO A SAMURAI FAMILY UNDER THE NAME SAKURA TOMONOSHIN, WITH SAKURA AS HIS SURNAME AND TOMONOSHIN HIS GIVEN ONE.

SIR, IT SEEMS THAT THE LOCAL PEASANTS HAVE BROUGHT BOTAMOCHI AS A GIFT-
THROW IT OUT.
WHAT FOOLS, THINKING I WOULD EAT SOMETHING SO FATTENING
……
ボーン
ボーン
ボーン
IT'S DIRTY.
TN: BOTAMOCHI IS MOCHI (A SORT OF STICKY RICE CAKE) MADE WITH A SWEET PASTE MADE FROM AZUKI BEANS.
YOU MEAN THE BOTA-MOCHI?
NO, NOT THAT. I'M TALKING ABOUT MY FATHER'S WAY OF DOING THINGS
HE KEEPS DECEIVING PEOPLE OVER AND OVER, INCREASES ANNUAL TAXES WITHOUT REASON
AND THAT'S GOING TO BE ME WHEN I GROW UP.
……
DON'T GO DECIDING THINGS JUST LIKE THAT!
YOUR PARENTS ARE YOUR PARENTS
AND YOU ARE YOU, RIGHT?
SO IT'S LIKE... HOW DO I PUT IT...
JUST BECOME THE KIND OF SAMURAI YOU WANT TO BE!

DID YOU BRING THAT THING LIKE WE PROMISED?
OH YEAH,
YEP!
AH HA HA!
THAT'S TRUE!
RIGHT?
HE HE...
HERE'S MINE.
HERE
NO WAY! AREN'T YOUR ARMS JUST TOO SHORT?
WOW! THIS SPECIALLY-MADE SHINAI IS SUPER LONG!
AHAHA. THANK YOU FOR THAT.
LOOK, THE ONE I GOT IS EXTRA THICK TO COMPENSATE FOR YOU BEING SUCH A WEAKLING!
SHADDUP, YOU!

TOMO,
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAND?
WELL,
I HAD A BIT OF TROUBLE CUTTING THE BAMBOO, SO...
OOH...
SO YOU MADE THIS BY HAND...
THANK YOU!!!
I'M GOING TO DO GREAT IN OUR MATCH TOMORROW FOR SURE!!
ME TOO!!!
.....
OH, THAT'S RIGHT!
!
TODAY'S THE END OF THE MONTH!!
HE'S HERE, HE'S HERE...
THE TOY SALES-MAN...

THIS IS SOMETHING KIDS CAN GET INTO FROM A YOUNG AGE
SINCE IT WILL HELP THEM GROW UP TO BE WISE ADULTS.
ポ!!!
THE TOY SALESMAN
ASUKA
YOU CAN'T GUARANTEE THAT
WELL, IF YOU FEEL YOU MIGHT BE DECEIVED-
I DO NOT!
MISTER TOOOY SALES-MAAAN!!
!!
WELL, WELL! WELCOME HOME, YOUNG SIR!
ARE YOU RETURNING FROM PRACTICE? HOW DILIGENT
YEAH! I HAVE AN IMPORTANT MATCH TOMORROW!!
MY PARENTS AND A BUNCH OF REALLY IMPORTANT PEOPLE ARE GOING TO BE THERE, SO I'M GONNA WIN FOR SURE!!
BUT NEVER MIND THAT..
LET ME DO THE USUAL THING!

HERE YOU GO!!
YES YES THE "BLACK AND WHITE LOTTERY", IS IT?
WAIT JUST A MOMENT PLEASE
HOW MANY BLACK ONES DID YOU GRAB?
SEVEN.
AND THE WHITE ONES?
...TEN!! THERE'S MORE WHITE ONES THAN BLACK, SO I WIN!!
OOH! CONGRATULATIONS!
OK!! THIS MUCH SHOULD DO!!
HERE! THIS WILL BE YOUR WINNING PRIZE FOR TODAY!!
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S CALLED A PAPER DRAGONFLY!!
WELL THEN, UNTIL NEXT MONTH!
HN.
SEE YOU LATER, MISTER "TOY SALESMAN!!
TOMONOSHIN.

YOU'RE GETTING EXCITED LIKE SOME IDIOT.
THAT MAN IS A MERCHANT.
CHEAP GARBAGE LIKE THAT IS JUST A PLOY TO LURE YOU IN.
BRAINLESS FOOL.
HOW DO YOU PLAN ON SUCCEEDING AS FAMILY HEAD LIKE THAT?
HAS THE NAGABI NOT BEEN PREPARED YET!!?
YES-RIGHT AWAY!!
HURRY UP, THE PEASANTS WILL BE ARRIVING SOON!!
YOU FOOL!!
U-UNPERSTOOP!!
THIS TINY AMOUNT WOULDN'T EVEN BRING A TEAR TO ONE'S EYE!!
I DID IT!!
WELL DONE!
I MON, FATHER!
すん…
すん…

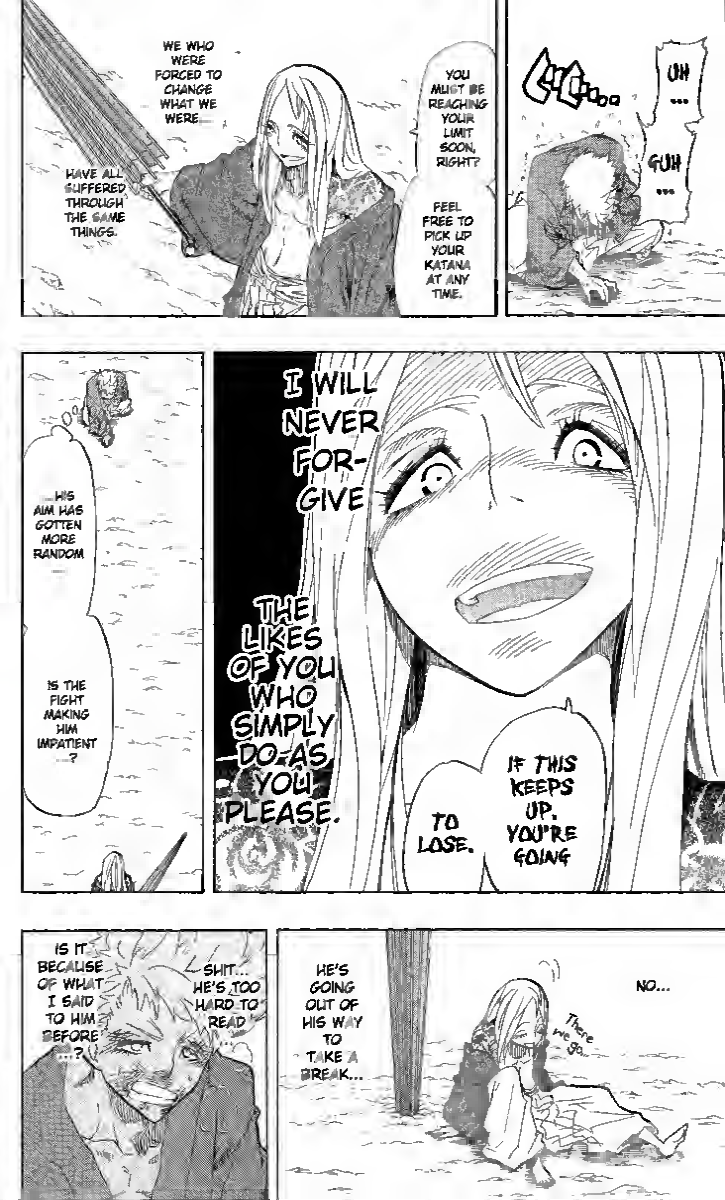
AND NOW, THE NEXT MATCH...
SAKURA TOMONOSHIN AS THE WHITE OPPONENT!!
COME FORWARD!!!
OGURA MAMEZOU AS THE RED OPPONENT!!
WOW! THAT SHINAI SURE LOOKS STRONG, MAMEZOU...
HEHE HE! IT'S PRETTY GREAT, HUH!
IT'S SO LONG...
ス...
...EH?

HA!
R-RIGHT!
HEY!!!
Ha Ha
WATCH OUT! IT'S THE ULTIMATE WEAPON !!!
Ha Ha Ha Ha
OH MAN, IS THIS GUY AN IDIOT OR WHAT!!?
MY STOMACH CAN'T TAKE IT!!
ガッ!!

DIS-QUAL-IFIED!
VICTORY GOES TO OGURA MAMEZOU BY DEFAULT!!
HEY, HOLD ON!!
TH- THIS ISN'T MY FAULT-
SIT DOWN AND BE QUIET!!
THAT'S GREAT, MAME-ZOU.
YES, FATHER.
I'M REALLY GLAD
THAT MY OPPONENT WAS SUCH AN IDIOT.
PLEASE BELIEVE ME, FATHER!!
WE WERE EXCHAN-GING SHINAI, AND HE-
NO ONE IS DOUBTING YOUR WORDS
UGH!!

HOW STUPID COULD YOU POSSIBLY BE
TO GET TRICKED SO EASILY!?
CUT OPEN YOUR STOMACH
THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO MAKE UP FOR THE SHAME YOU'VE BROUGHT UPON ME.
HEY!!
WATCH IT, YOU BRAT!!
OH?

WHAT HAPPENED, YOUNG SIR...?
YOU'RE ALL BEATEN UP...
わー
わー
ギッ!!!
スパーン!!!
OI
URG !!!

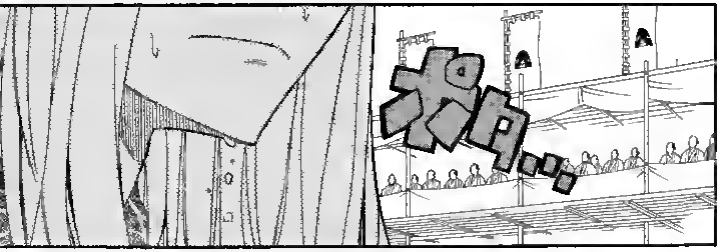

WE WHO WERE FORCED TO CHANGE WHAT WE WERE...
HAVE ALL SUFFERED THROUGH THE SAME THINGS.
YOU MUST BE REACHING YOUR LIMIT SOON, RIGHT?
FEEL FREE TO PICK UP YOUR KATANA AT ANY TIME.
UH...
GUH...
...HIS AIM HAS GOTTEN MORE RANDOM...
IS THE FIGHT MAKING HIM IMPATIENT...?
I WILL NEVER FOR-GIVE
THE LIKES OF YOU WHO SIMPLY DO AS YOU PLEASE.
IF THIS KEEPS UP, YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE.
IS IT BECAUSE OF WHAT I SAID TO HIM BEFORE...?
SHIT... HE'S TOO HARD TO READ...
HE'S GOING OUT OF HIS WAY TO TAKE A BREAK...
There we go...
NO...

AND PICK UP YOUR KATANA!!
NOW HURRY UP
TAKE AIM FOR THIS BAG AND MOW ME DOWN!!
ISN'T THAT WHY YOU'RE SAYING THINGS LIKE
"I'M NOT GOING TO AIM FOR THAT BAG"?
HURRY UP AND SHOW ME
HOW MUCH OF A SAMURAI YOU REALLY ARE!!!

HE'LL HAVE TO...
!!
BUT WITH THIS...
DID I GO TOO FAR...?
D'YOU WANNA KILL ME NOW, YOU DAMN JERK?
BUT THANKS TO THAT, I'VE FIGURED OUT YOUR REAL INTENTIONS

I'LL TELL YOU AS MANY TIMES AS IT TAKES.
I SWEAR ON THE HONOR OF THE USAGI DOJO...AND THE CUTENESS OF ALL TEA GIRLS...
THAT I WON'T AIM FOR THAT BAG.

WHAT'S WITH HIM?
LIKE THIS, IT'S ALMOST LIKE...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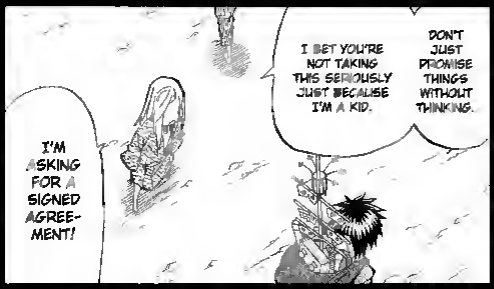
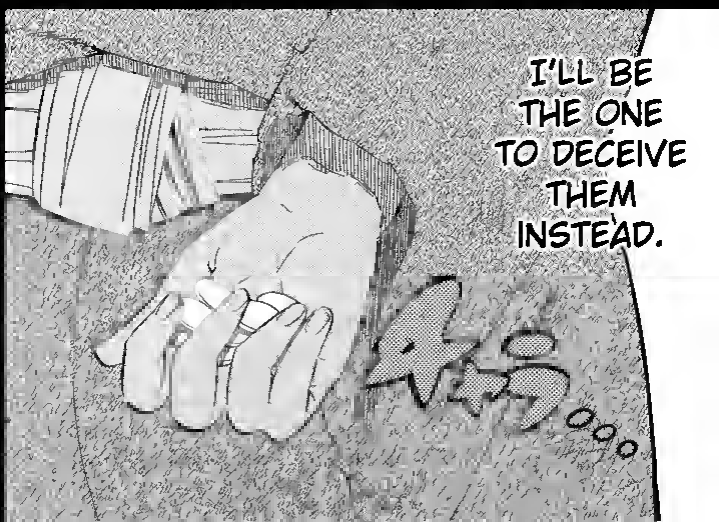
CHAPTER FIFTY-NINE:
THE PERSON CALLED ASUKA
I CAME TO TAKE A LOOK AFTER HEARING ABOUT A "DIRTY KID", BUT I HAD NO IDEA IT WOULD BE YOU, YOUNG SIR...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...?
YOU'RE ALL BEATEN UP, TOO.
I WON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING UNLESS YOU TELL ME!!
LOOK. I'M JELLY !!!
PLEASE LAUGH !!!
...Even though making children happy is my job...!
HEY
LET'S PLAY THE USUAL...
LOTTERY GAME.
SURE, SURE.
I LEFT THE GO STONES AT HOME, SO FOR NOW LET'S GO THERE-
BEFORE THAT, I WANT YOU TO PROMISE ME SOMETHING.
IF I WIN, THEN YOU HAVE TO
GIVE ME ONE THING OF MY CHOICE, NO MATTER WHAT IT IS


I'M ASKING FOR A SIGNED AGREEMENT!
I BET YOU'RE NOT TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY JUST BECAUSE I'M A KID.
DON'T JUST PROMISE THINGS WITHOUT THINKING.
YES, CERTAINLY. I DON'T MIND.
NOW THEN, SHALL WE GET GOING?

AND I WON'T TRUST ANYONE.
I WON'T BE DECEIVED BY ANYONE.
...I'LL LIVE ON MY OWN,
... FINE.
UUUM MMM... I CAN'T WRITE, SO...
WOULD A HAND PRINT BE ALRIGHT?


I'LL BE THE ONE TO DECEIVE THEM INSTEAD.

HYA AA!!
TCH ...
I'M NOT SURE ON WHY YOU'RE SO AGITATED, BUT YOUR MOVEMENTS SURE HAVE GOTTEN SLUGGISH.
HA AA
AT THIS RATE, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.
HA AA
YOU WOULDN'T CONSIDER GIVING UP, WOULD YOU?

THAT WON'T DO.
I'M GOING TO WIN.
STARTING NOW, I'M GOING TO BE..
ゾゾゾ
ドッ!!
AIMING FOR YOUR STOMACH WITH THIS.
BUT YOUR STOMACH.
NOT YOUR FACE, THROAT, FEET OR CHEST...
.....
GOT IT?
SOUNDS GOOD. COME AT ME, THEN.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE?
OR MAYBE I SHOULD SAY
IF YOU WANT TO WIN, THAT IS
PICK UP YOUR KATANA ALREADY.
DON'T GO AGREEING SO EASILY
O... OK!!
BE SURE TO WATCH
THIS FIGHT CAREFULLY!
SHINO!!
!
WITH ASUKA.
THAT HE HAS NOTHING IN COMMON
LET'S GO!!
THAT THIS GUY IS) ALSO JUST ANOTHER FILTHY SAMURAI
WHAT I WANT TO DO NOW, IS PROVE
BUT MORE THAN WINNING ...
IF HE DIES .. IT'S HIS LOSS.

WOW, THAT'S GREAT!!
NOW THEN, GO RIGHT AHEAD!! PICK ANYTHING YOU LIKE, JUST AS PROMISED!!
IT... IT'S MY WIN.
SIX
TN: THE KANJI ON THE KITE READS "ASUKA".
HOW MANY BLACK ONES?
THREE
I SEE! AND THE WHITE ONES?
GIVE ME
THIS HOUSE.
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT
HM MM ..
!!! AHAHA! ALRIGHT!!
I THOUGHT YOU'D TRY SAYING THAT!!
YOU PROMISED, DIDN'T YOU?
WOULD YOU LIE TO A CHILD?
MAKING CHILDREN HAPPY IS MY JOB!
THEN IT'S FINE, RIGHT?

WELL, I DID MAKE A PROMISE. AND IF IT WOULD MAKE YOU HAPPY, YOUNG SIR,
THEN I DON'T MIND GIVING THIS HOUSE TO YOU AT ALL
BUT I WONDER WHY YOU WOULD WANT IT...AND,
YOUR FATHER MUST BE WAITING FOR YOU TO COME HOME AS WELL...
.....
IT.... IT WAS ROBBERS!!
THEY BROKE INTO OUR HOUSE AND KILLED EVERYONE BUT ME!!
BUT YOUR HOUSE IS STILL THERE, ISN'T IT?
..... THEY SET IT ON FIRE, AND IT BURNED TO THE GROUND!!!
I SEE...
THAT'S TRULY REGRETTABLE...
IN THAT CASE,
SHALL WE GO TO SLEEP SOON?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? GET OUT OF HERE!!
THIS HOUSE BELONGS TO ME NOW!!
But... I have nowhere else to stay...
please, young sir!
AS IF I CARE!!

I'LL BE PAYING FOR THIS MONTH'S RENT ANYWAY.
ぐぉー
ぐぉー
DAMN ...I HAD NO IDEA...
THAT YOU HAD TO PAY FOR LIVING IN A ROW HOUSE ...
ぐぉー
ぐぉー
.....?
WHAT'S ALL THIS?
OOH, IT FITS PERFECTLY!!
IT'S A GOOD THING MY FATHER DIDN'T THROW THESE OUT!!
WHA-CUT IT OUT!!!
THESE ARE FRESH CLOTHES FOR YOU, YOUNG SIR.
YOU DON'T WANT TO GO AROUND IN SUCH A WORN-OUT KIMONO, DO YOU?
ALSO ...

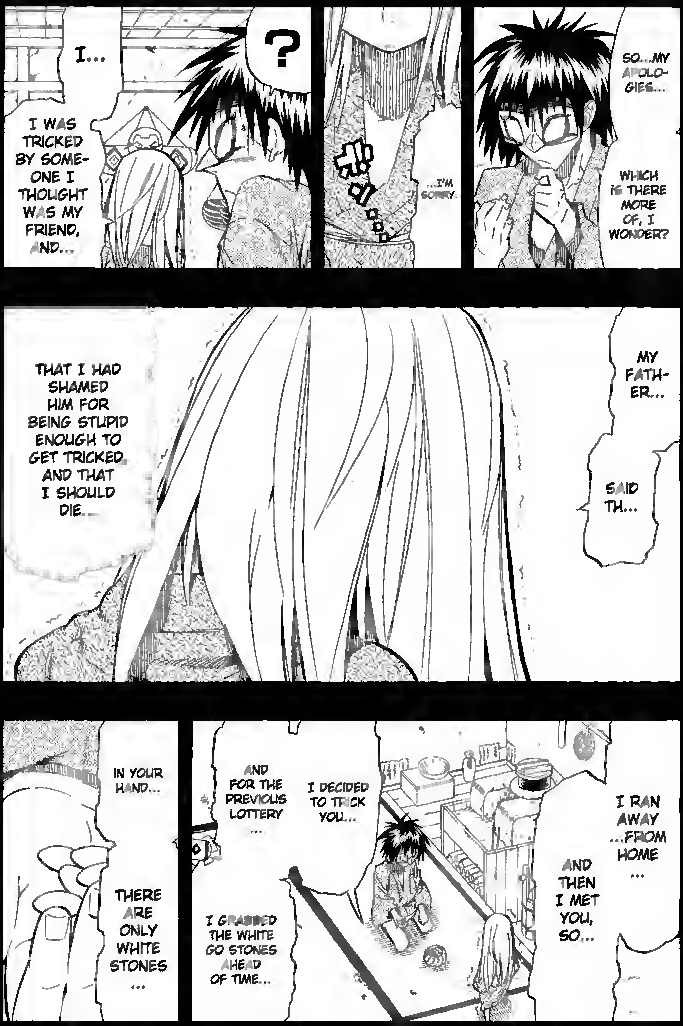
T/N: WHEN ASUKA SPEAKS OF HIS FATHER, HE USES THE WORD 'KASO', WHICH IS AN ARCHAIC WAY OF REFERRING TO ONE'S FATHER AND IMPLIES THAT THEY ARE OF A HUMBLE STATUS- NOT IN THE SENSE THAT ASUKA FEELS HIS FATHER IS LOWER THAN HIMSELF BUT THAT HIS FATHER- AND THUS ASUKA BY EXTENSION- IS LOWER THAN THE ONE HE'S SPEAKING TO, WHICH IS GOTOH IN THIS CASE. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ANY OF THE CHARACTERS HAVE USED THIS TERM.

THIS IS BURN OINTMENT,
SO IF YOU'RE IN PAIN, THEN PLEASE SPREAD SOME ON YOUR BURNS
パカッ!
THE LIES I TOLD YESTERDAY
HE REALLY BELIEVED ALL OF IT
I DON'T NEED THOSE THINGS!!
MY BACK IS BADLY BURNT, SO IT'D HURT IF I HAD NEW CLOTHES RUBBING AGAINST IT!!
EH— BUT
THEN WE'LL USE THE OINTMENT-
I DON'T WANT TO BARE MY SKIN FOR A REASON LIKE THAT!!
THE LIES STARTED IN THAT PLACE,
WHERE I KEPT PILING MORE AND MORE OF THEM
EVEN SO, ASUKA WOULD
BELIEVE ME EVERY TIME,
AND TRIED TO MAKE ME HAPPY
……

QUIT DOING THINGS I NEVER ASKED FOR!!!
I CAN PAY THE RENT ON MY OWN, SO JUST LEAVE!!
THIS IS MY HOUSE!!
I WON'T BE DECEIVED!!
THERE'S NO WAY I'LL BE DECEIVED!!!
BUT THEN YOU'LL BE ALL ALONE, YOUNG SIR-
SHUT UP!!
I DIDN'T ASK FOR YOU!!!
MAKING CHILDREN HAPPY IS MY JOB!
FINE, I GET IT!!!
NOW HURRY UP AND GO!!!
HM M...
THEN HOW ABOUT THIS-
ぎゅう ooo

IF I GRAB A LARGER NUMBER OF BLACK STONES, I GET TO LOOK AFTER YOU FOR ANOTHER MONTH, YOUNG SIR.
BUT IF THERE ARE MORE WHITE STONES, I'LL DO AS YOU WISH-
AND LEAVE, RIGHT?
FINE.
ジャラ
ジャラ
HA A!!
ばっ!!
SO?
YOU CAN SEE FOR YOUR-SELF, CAN'T YOU?
NO, NOT AT ALL
CAN YOU PLEASE COUNT THEM UP FOR ME?
QUIT MESSING WITH ME!!
THERE'S NO NEED TO COUNT THEM, IS THERE!!?
Here!!!
OH.. I'M SORRY
I'VE NEVER MENTIONED IT TO YOU, NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT
?

I AM BLIND.
OOH!! YOU DID IT!!
YES!! THERE ARE TWICE AS MANY WHITE ONES!!
SO ...
ALL THIS TIME ...
TCH... THERE WERE MORE BLACK ONES.
OH NO, THAT'S TOO BAD!
BUT THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT TIME.
... SIX.
IT'S MY WIN.
HE REALLY BELIEVED... EVERYTHING I SAID...


I...
?
I WAS TRICKED BY SOMEONE I THOUGHT WAS MY FRIEND, AND...
...I'M SORRY.
SO...MY APOLOGIES...
WHICH IS THERE MORE OF, I WONDER?
MY FATHER...
SAID TH...
THAT I HAD SHAMED HIM FOR BEING STUPID ENOUGH TO GET TRICKED AND THAT I SHOULD DIE...
I RAN AWAY ...FROM HOME ...
AND THEN I MET YOU, SO...
I DECIDED TO TRICK YOU...
AND FOR THE PREVIOUS LOTTERY ...
I GRABBED THE WHITE GO STONES AHEAD OF TIME...
IN YOUR HAND...
THERE ARE ONLY WHITE STONES ...

BUT ...
PLEASE STAY... WITH ME .....

WHAT I... SAID JUST NOW ...
IT'S ALL... TRUE ...

HE GUARDED HIS STOMACH
WITHOUT HESITATION !!!
AND, CRUSH ME
NOW HURRY UP
ALONG WITH THESE GO STONES !!!
AT THE VERY LAST SECOND !!!
YOU GRABBED YOUR KATANA
STILL LOOKS LIKE YOU REALLY ARE A GREAT SAMURAI

HE...
HIS KATANA...
HUH?
!!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT RIGHT NOW...
THAT I WON'T AIM FOR THOSE GO STONES!
I TOLD YOU A BUNCH OF TIMES ALREADY
...DON'T MAKE THAT FACE!

BUT YOU'RE FULL OF OPEN-INGS!!

ズ…ッ…
SETSU-SAMA
COULD IT BE... HE...
……

THE OPPONENT HAS FAINT-

...ED?

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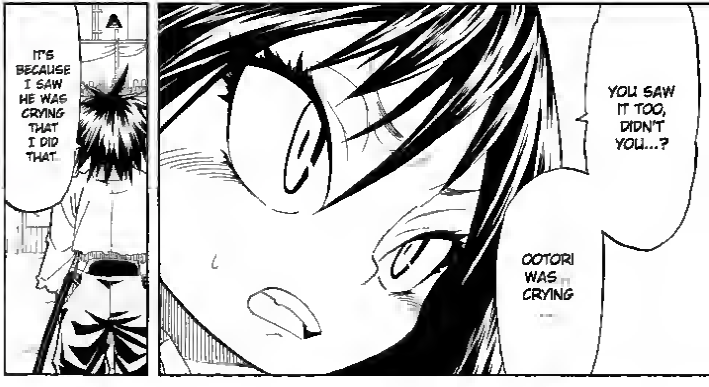
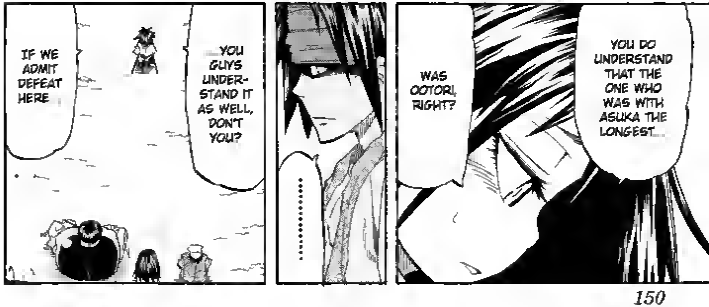
CHAPTER SIXTY:
THE GENERALS' DUEL!
OOTORI
HEY, OOTORI
U... UM...
THE MATCH IS ALREADY
I KNOW HE DIDN'T FAINT
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, OOTORI?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MOZUKU-SENPAI!?
MO-ZU-KU!!!
HA!
!!!


IT'S BECAUSE I SAW HE WAS CRYING THAT I DID THAT.
OOTORI WAS CRYING
YOU SAW IT TOO, DIDN'T YOU...?


IF WE ADMIT DEFEAT HERE
YOU GUYS UNDER-STAND IT AS WELL, DON'T YOU?
WAS OOTORI, RIGHT?
.....
YOU DO UNDERSTAND THAT THE ONE WHO WAS WITH ASUKA THE LONGEST...

IS DEATH.
THEN ALL THAT AWAITS US...

WHICH WOULD YOU PREFER?
GETTING KILLED BY MEMBERS OF THE KOBUKAN AS THEY PLEASE
OR HAVING ALL OUR HEADS PUT ON DISPLAY AT THE PRISON GATES

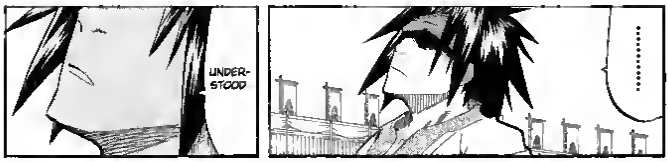
.....?
.....

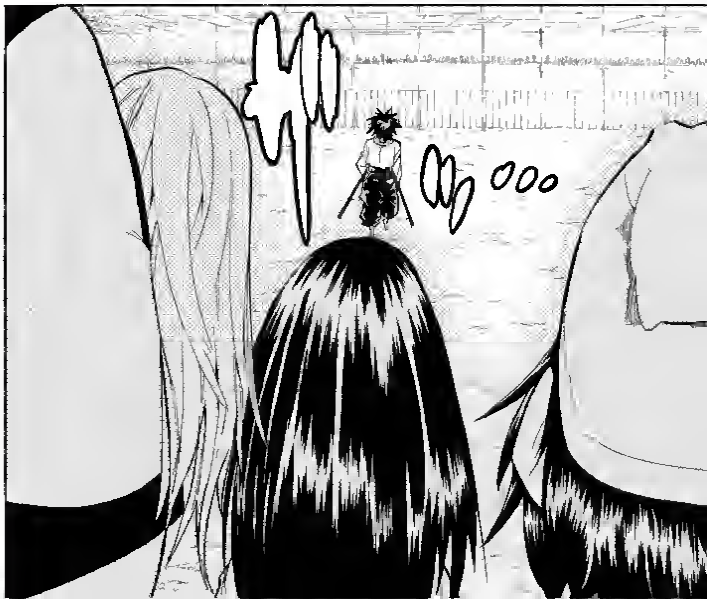
TSURU-YA?
...HOW ABOUT YOU,

.....

.....

THE IMAGE OF "SAMURAI" THAT WE'VE PAINTED IN OUR MINDS...
DOESN'T SEEM TO FIT WITH THOSE OF THE USAGI DOJO AT ALL...
...IT'S TRUE THAT WE ENTERED IN THIS TOURNAMENT WITH OUR LIVES ON THE LINE.. BUT...
I'M NOT SO SURE ANYMORE
TO BE HONEST


UNDER-STOOD
.....


ooo

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!! YOU WERE TOTALLY AWESOME, SETTSU-SAMA!!
THIS SURE DOESN'T FEEL LIKE THE SORT OF ATMOSPHERE I IMAGINED WOULD COME AFTER MY FIRST WIN, THOUGH.....
THANKS FOR WATCHING, EVERY-ONE ..
UGH ...
OKAY, NOW SIT STILL, BIG BRO!!
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE, SHINO.
I'll fix you up!
OH... ON SECOND THOUGHT,
I CAN LOOK AFTER THIS BY MYSELF,
SO WHY DON'T YOU GO SEE HIM OFF?
ただただ・・・
BEEP!
OK !!!
.....

UDAGAWA-DONO! WITH THAT KATANA, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIGHT FREELY!!
YES!
I'M IN YOUR DEBT, RYOUSEI-DONO!!

NOW THEN— I HAVE TO DO MY BEST...
GOC-CHIII-IIN!!!!

OH, THAT'S RIGHT!!
SINCE IT'S A REALLY IMPORTANT MATCH, I DECIDED TO BRING THIS ALONG AS WELL...

I HAVE YOUR USUAL HEADBAND, WILL YOU USE IT?
YES! THANK YOU FOR PREPARING IT FOR ME, SHINO

HM? SHINO...
IT'S FINALLY YOUR TURN, GOCCHIN!!!

PUT THIS ON!!
... RIGHT!!
I'LL GLADLY DO SO.
DO YOUR BEST, OKAY !!!

...THE LAST MATCH, FINALLY ...
SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NOW?
FROM THE LOOKS OF THINGS, IT SEEMS LIKE THE RENPEIKAN MIGHT LOSE...
.....
UDAGAWA GOSUKE — RIGHT?
I HAVE A PROPOSAL FOR YOU.
HM?

"THE FINAL MATCH WILL CONSIST OF TWO ROUNDS."
WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO THAT?
I COULD UNDERSTAND THREE ROUNDS, BUT...
.....WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
BUT IF WE GAIN TWO MORE WINS, THE VICTORY WILL GO TO US.
...RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE ONE WIN, TWO LOSSES AND ONE DRAW...

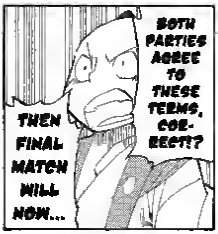
TN: MOZUKU IS POINTING OUT THE FACT THAT, IF HE WINS THIS MATCH, THE SCORE FOR EACH TEAM WILL ONLY BE EVEN (TWO WINS, TWO LOSSES AND ONE DRAW ON BOTH SIDES) SO AN EXTRA ROUND WOULD BE NEEDED. IN THAT CASE- AND MOZUKU IS POSITIVE HE WILL WIN.

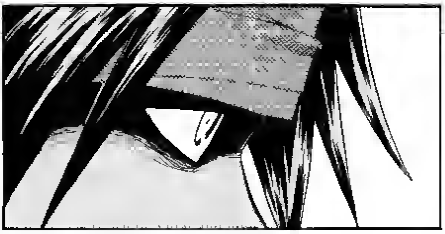
WA... WANI-BUCHI-SAMA...
HM...IT'S TRUE THAT IT WOULD BE BAD TO LEAVE A TIE UNSETTLED...
WHAT DOES UDA-GAWA-DONO THINK?
AND THERE IS NO WAY I WOULD LOSE TO YOU.
!!!
DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, OSHIKE-CHAN! YOU DON'T HAVE TO REPLY!!
HE'S GOT SOME-THING UP HIS SLEEVE FOR SURE!!
VERY WELL.
HUH !!?

REFEREE!!
...UNDERSTOOD.

YESSES SIR!!
AS FOR WHAT CONSTITUTES A WINNING POINT, I'LL LEAVE IT UP TO YOU TO DECIDE.
THE MATCH WILL NOT END WHEN A PERSON FAINTS.

I ALSO HAVE NO INTENTION OF LOOSING TO YOU.
REGARDLESS OF WHAT IS DECIDED,


THEN FINAL MATCH WILL NOW...
BOTH PARTIES AGREE TO THESE TERMS, CORRECT!?



BEGIN !!!

LET'S GO.
HE'S NOT JUST USING THE BLADES ON HIS LEGS...
BUT INTENDS TO FIGHT WITH ONE IN EACH HAND AS WELL?

THIS IS NOTHING!!
COMPARED TO THE SPEED OF THOSE BAMBOO PIECES.
TCH!!

!
AS TO BE EXPECTED OF A SAMURAI, HIS METHODS ARE COWARDLY
IN THAT CASE...
HE RUNS WHEN I ATTACK, AND ATTACKS WHEN I BACK OFF..

HE DROPPED HIS STANCE
IS THIS A GOOD CHANCE, OR IS HE BAITING ME...?
EITHER WAY, I WON'T KNOW.
UNLESS I ATTACK!!

0000

GUH ...
!!!
ONE MORE TRY!!
THIS BARRAGE OF ATTACKS IS UNBEARABLE!!
GAH!
EVEN IF I MANAGE TO BLOCK THEM ALL, THERE ARE NO OPENINGS FOR ME TO ATTACK... !!
!!

MY CHANCE IS NOW!!
HE'S GOTTEN SLUGGISH..
!!!
GIVE UP, IIDAGAWA GOSUKE.
GUH!!
WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO GAIN FROM THIS MATCH?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES ARE...
IF YOU KNOW WHO WE ARE THEN YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU?
UNLIKE YOU, WE WON'T BE GETTING ANY SECOND CHANCES

BUT COMPARED TO THE BURDENS WE CARRY...
YOURS ARE AS LIGHT AS A FEATHER!
SFX. ZA ZA!! - QUICK, DEADLY MOVEMENT

!!
O... ONE POI-
NOT YET !!!!

HE DIDN'T BLOCK MY ATTACK AT ALL!!!
IN ORDER TO CREATE AN OPENING
HE BROKE THE KATANA...
I ALSO HAVE NO EXPECTATIONS OF RECEIVING SOMETHING LIKE
A "SECOND CHANCE"

.....TO PICK OUT OUR OWN INGREDIENTS
WHEN WE GO SHOPPING TOGETHER,
NOISILY EATING SOBA WHEN WE FEEL LIKE IT
AND GOING ON WALKS WHEN THE WEATHER IS NICE
.....?
THIS MATCH MAY BE...
MY ONLY OPPORTUNITY... TO DEFEAT THE KOBUKAN
AND ATTAIN THE FREEDOM OF LIVING HAPPILY WITH MY WIFE.
そば
THAT IS WHY I MUST WIN...
I JUST KNOW THAT IF I LOSE
...IT WILL MAKE YOUR WIFE ANGRY?
OR WILL SHE BE SAD?
BORED?
SHE...
...WITHOUT FAIL,

"YOU DID YOUR BEST, GOCCHIN!!"
SHE'LL JUST SMILE AND SAY,
MAKING MY WIFE... MAKING SHINO FORCE HER FEELINGS IN THAT MANNER...
...I CAN'T STAND IT!
.....
WHAT A JOKE...

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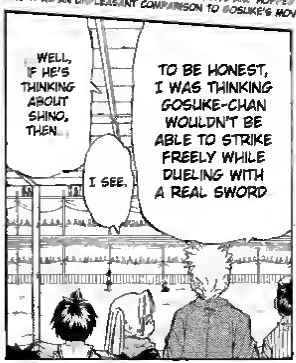
CHAPTER SIXTY-ONE:
A GREAT SWORD
HERE IT COMES!!!

TN: THERE IS AN OLD JAPANESE FOLKTALE ABOUT A KETTLE THAT CAME ALIVE AND HOPPED AROUND. MOTOKI SEEMS TO BE REFERENCING IT AS AN UNPLEASANT COMPARISON TO GOSUKE'S MOVEMENTS.


WELL, IF HE'S THINKING ABOUT SHINO, THEN...
I SEE.
TO BE HONEST, I WAS THINKING GOSUKE-CHAN WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO STRIKE FREELY WHILE DUELING WITH A REAL SWORD

GOSUKE-KUN'S FIGHTING STYLE RELIES ON HIS LEGS, AFTER ALL
IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S PUTTING A LOT OF EFFORT INTO KEEPING HIS DISTANCE, KICKING OFF THE GROUND THE INSTANT THEY COME CLOSE.
YEAH

CHAPTER SIXTY-ONE: A GREAT SWORD

I CAN SEE. I CAN SEE IT!!
IS IT THANKS TO MY TRAINING!!?
I SHOULD ATTACK NOW!!
AT THIS RATE....
I'VE HAD ENOUGH.

WHAT JUST ?
...HUH?
ドッ…
SORRY
BUT I COULDN'T TELL...
WHAT DID HE DO JUST NOW, HONAMI-SAMA, ?
H HEY.
LIKE A RABBIT, YOU EXCEL AT RUNNING AWAY.
THE USAGI DOJO HAS QUITE THE FITTING NAME-
BUT THIS IS NO DIFFERENT FROM WHAT HAPPENED AT THE RENPEIKAN.
ONE LITTLE PUSH AND YOU'RE A MESS.
SINCE YOU WERE CHOSEN AS THE GENERAL I KNEW YOU MUST BE A LITTLE CAUTIOUS...

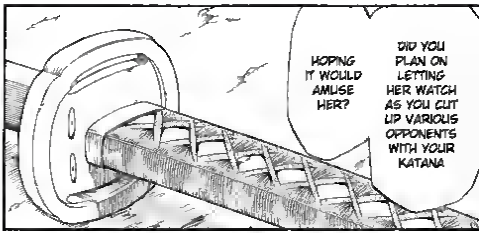
O... ONE P-
SHUT UP
WE'RE NOT DONE
SU- SUT IF THE BLADE ATTACHED TO YOUR LEG GOES ANY FUETHER-
I SAID WE'RE NOT DONE
ISN'T THAT SO, LIDA-GAWA GOSU-KE?
UGH !!!

I'LL WIN IN SPITE OF IT!
...OR SHOULD I SAY...
THERE'S NO WAY I'D LOSE DUE TO SOMETHING SO INSIGNIFICANT.
BUT OF COURSE.

THAT'S RIGHT, LIDA-GAWA
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE INJURED TO THIS DEGREE...
THAT YOU'RE SAYING SUCH NON-SENSE!
SFX. GON!! - CRACK!!

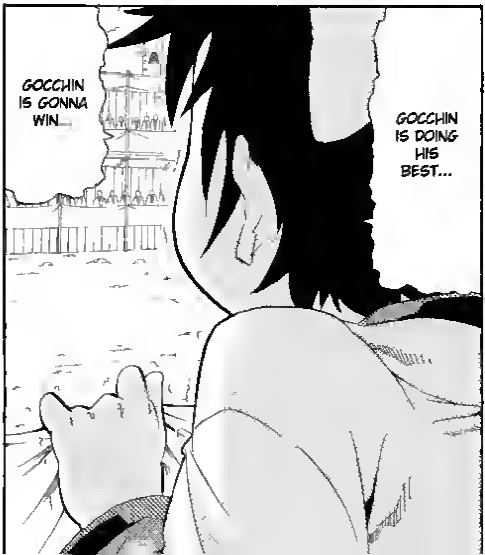
YOU EVEN BROUGHT HER TO A PLACE LIKE THIS.
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE QUITE FOND OF YOUR WIFE.
THAT WASN'T THE SOUND OF SOMETHING BEING CUT...

...TO EVEN JOKE ABOUT THAT ...
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU...!


DID YOU PLAN ON LETTING HER WATCH AS YOU CUT UP VARIOUS OPPONENTS WITH YOUR KATANA
HOPING IT WOULD AMUSE HER?

GUH !!!
UAA AA!!
AGH!!

HAVE IT YOUR WAY, THEN


GOCCHIN IS GONNA WIN...
GOCCHIN IS DOING HIS BEST...

IT'S OKAY TO STOP WATCHING IF THIS IS TOO MUCH-
HEY
NO!!

AND USING ONLY ONE HAND AT THAT... DAMN IT!
HE'S TOTALLY UNHINDERED
Boooo
ヒョイ…
KUH...
LET GO...!
IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY?...
THIS MAN IS ON AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT LEVEL...
I MISREAD HIM!
I WAS THINKING OF NOTHING BUT HIS STRANGE LEG ATTACKS AND LOST MY AWARENESS
OF ME
LET GO
DAMN IT!!
I'LL SETTLE WITH SCORING ONE POINT...
FOR NOW...

M... MAYBE WE...
CAN JUST...
STOP HERE?

I... DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO PUT IT, BUT...
IT... IT'S LIKE I...
CAN'T REALLY BRING MYSELF TO HATE THEM, OR...

MO... MOZU-KU!!!
!!

.....

GBooo
.....

IF THOSE GUYS WON INSTEAD, THEN...
I FEEL LIKE A LOT OF GOOD THINGS WOULD HAPPEN OR SOMETHING...

I'LL YELL OUT THE TRUTH ABOUT US
FOR EVERY-ONE TO HEAR!!
...I'M SERI-OUS ABOUT THIS
SHUT UP!!!
TO NOT BE DECEIVED SO-
BUT YOU'VE BEEN TOLD MANY TIMES ALREADY
THE FACT THAT YOU'RE HONEST IS ONE OF YOUR GOOD POINTS,
.....
SU-ZU-ME
SO DIDN'T YOU HEAR
YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING THIS WHOLE TIME
WHETHER I'M BEING DECEIVED OR NOT !
I HAVEN'T BEEN DECEIVED
IT'S MORE LIKE, I DON'T CARE

H... HOW THAT HONOR-ABLE SAMURAI ...
DEFENDED ME...!?
.....
.....
.....
.....

MO-ZU-KU!!
SUZUME-CHAN WASN'T MAKING A SUG-GESTION-
MO-ZUKU-CCHI !!!
HMPH
ARE YOU FINISHED, SUZUME?
I KNOW THAT.
BUT YOU KNOW TOO, DON'T YOU?
BETWEEN SUZUME REVEALING THE TRUTH
AND ME SHUTTING HER UP, WHO WOULD BE FASTER?
.....
IT'S TIME,
LIDA-GA-WA
.....
!!
WHAT'S WITH THIS KATANA .?
YOU CAN'T CUT ANY-THING WITH THIS

ta
ta
THE EDGE HASN'T BEEN SHARPENED AT ALL...
YOU KNEW?
THAT'S RIGHT!!
THAT'S MY KATANA
"TOGAMI"!!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, GLASSES GUY?
WELL, THAT'S JUST HOW IT TURNED OUT AFTER I FINISHED DESCRIBING UDAGAWA-DONO'S PERSONALITY TO KIYOHITO-DONO
EVEN SO

I BELIEVE THAT FOR UDAGAWA-DONO, THERE IS NO GREATER SWORD...
THAN THAT ONE.
HEH.
THAT'S FOR SURE.
THERE'S NO WAY...
THAT I'M BEING DECEIVED ...!
.....
SO THIS IS THE USAGI DOJO'S HEAD INSTRUCTOR
UDAGAWA GOSUKE HUH...
.....
UDAGAWA...
I NOW UNDERSTAND YOU.
REALLY WELL...

...IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER YOU'RE KIND OR COLD...
WHETHER YOU'RE HARD-WORKING OR LAZY...NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF SAMURAI YOU ARE,
ONE POINT !!!
ONE ...
!!!
IN THE WORLD I AIM TO CREATE,
ガシャッ!!
IT OBVIOUSLY WON'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE.
LISTEN UP, YOU BASTARDS!!!
!!!
.....

WE ARE-
KEEP THIS IN MIND
THE NEXT TIME SOMEONE OPENS THEIR MOUTH TO SAY POINTLESS THINGS...
THEY'LL BE THE VICTIM OF THESE BLADES
UH...
UU UGH ...!
GUH ...
MASTER ...!
...TO THINK HE'D HARASS HIM THIS MUCH... WHAT A MALICIOUS PERSON...
...THAT'S NOT IT, CHIYO-KICHI.

THAT BASTARD WAS ONLY THINKING OF DOING THINGS
THAT'D BENEFIT HIM IN THE SECOND ROUND ...!!!

THIS MATCH HAS TWO ROUNDS
DID YOU FORGET?
!!

WHAT ARE YOU LYING AROUND FOR?
HURRY UP AND GET ON YOUR FEET.

IT'S TIME FOR THE FINALE.
.....

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TRANSLATION NOTES:

HONORABLE SAMURAI

ON PAGE 12 OF THIS CHAPTER, SUZUME DECLARES TO MOZUKU THAT MARO WAS AN 'HONORABLE SAMURAI' FOR DEFENDING HER FROM THE CROWD OF TAUNTING BACK IN CHAPTER 50. IN THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE TEXT, SHE ACTUALLY SAYS 'OSAMURAI-SAMA'. IT'S BEEN NOTED BEFORE, BUT PLACING 'O' AT THE START OF AN ITEM OR A PERSON'S NAME SERVES AS AN HONORIFIC PREFIX, WHILE 'SAMA' AS MANY KNOW IS AN HONORIFIC SUFFIX. PEASANTS AND MERCHANTS HAVE REFERRED TO THE SAMURAI IN THIS SERIES AS 'OSAMURAI-SAMA' BEFORE, BUT THIS WAS ALWAYS DONE IN A SARCASTIC MANNER, SO IT WAS MY DECISION TO TRANSLATE IT AS THINGS LIKE 'MISTER SAMURAI' IN ORDER TO CONVEY THIS NOTION. HOWEVER, IT'S CLEAR THAT WHEN SUZUME SAYS IT, SHE MEANS IT FROM THE BOTTOM OF HER HEART. THUS, ON THIS OCCASION, I TRANSLATED IT AS 'HONORABLE SAMURAI' TO TRY AND MATCH HER FEELINGS!

THE RONIN NAMES

SINCE THERE'S STILL QUITE A BIT OF SPACE LEFT ON THIS PAGE, I'M GOING TO TAKE A MOMENT TO TALK ABOUT SOME THINGS I'VE WANTED TO POINT OUT FOR A WHILE, BUT COULD NEVER FIND THE RIGHT TIME! FIRST OFF, THE NAMES OF THE RONIN! SOME PEOPLE MAY HAVE NOTICED ALREADY, BUT THERE'S A DISTINCT BIRD MOTIF GOING ON

SUZUME: SPARROW
MOZUKU: 'MOZU' - SHRIKE, 'KU' - NINE
OOTORI: LARGER BIRD, OR THE CHINESE PHOENIX
TSURUYA: 'TSURU' - CRANE, 'YA' - SHOP
UZURA: QUAIL

ATAI, THE FEMININE PRONOUN

WHILE MOST PEOPLE KNOW OF VARIOUS PRONOUNS USED BY GIRLS SUCH AS 'ATASHI', 'WATASHI' AND THE OCCASIONAL 'BOKU', THE TOMBOY SUZUME USES NONE OF THESE, AND INSTEAD REFERS TO HERSELF WITH THE EXCEEDINGLY RARE 'ATAI'. WHILE INDISPUTABLY USED BY GIRLS ONLY, 'ATAI' CARRIES VERY ROUGH AND UNCULTURED IMPLICATIONS. THIS IS THE SORT OF WORD THAT WOULD GENERALLY BE USED BY FEMALE DELINQUENTS OR GANG MEMBERS. IT IS A BIT OLD-FASHIONED, HOWEVER, SO WHETHER IT'S STILL USED BY SUCH CROWDS OR NOT IS UP FOR DISPUTE.

SO THE YOU FROM BACK THEN WAS LIKE THAT (1)

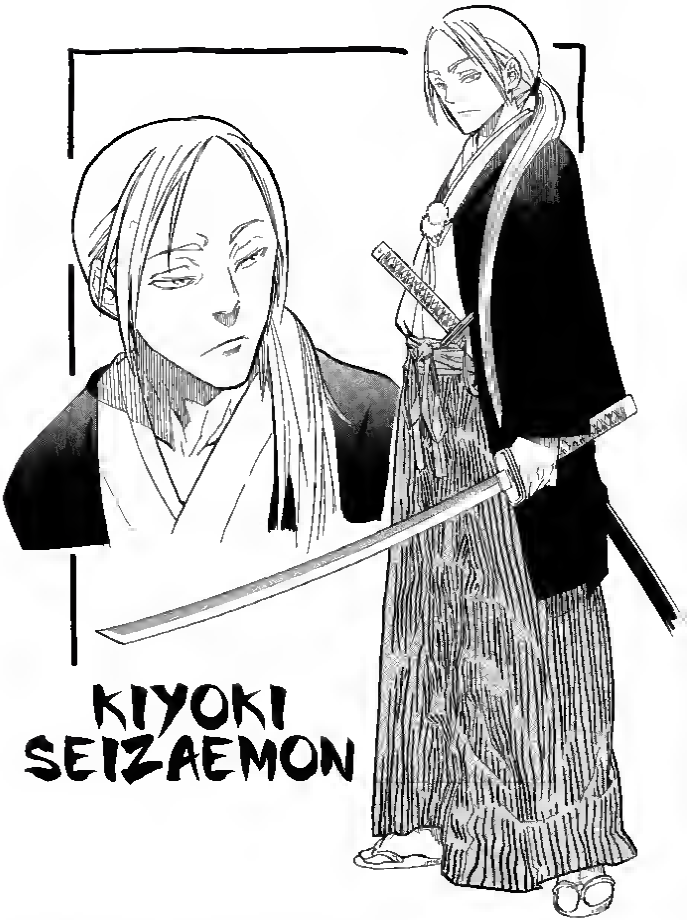
UDAGAWA GOSUKE

THIS IS A CHARACTER CHART I DREW UP BACK WHEN I HAD JUST BEEN SERIALIZED.
AT FIRST I WROTE HIS NAME OUT TO BE MIGISHITA, BUT IT FELT LIKE A LOT OF PEOPLE MIGHT THINK "WHO THE HECK?" OR SOMETHING!!
I CHANGED HIS LOOKS A LITTLE BIT BASED ON ADVICE FROM THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.
...WELL, THAT'S REALLY ALL THERE WAS TO IT.

SO THE YOU FROM BACK THEN WAS LIKE THAT ②

SHINO

SO TALL!!! AND HER TOOTH ISN'T MISSING!!!
THAT'S WHAT CATCHES MY ATTENTION IN THIS PICTURE, SO I TRIED TAKING A JAB AT IT!
I WAS TROUBLED OVER WHAT TO DO WITH THE FEEL OF HER HAIR, SO I HAD TO ASK AROUND FOR A LITTLE GUIDANCE ON IT.



AH, JEEZ...THIS IS TOTALLY THE PICTURE OF A VILLAINOUS PERSON, ISN'T IT?
I PROBABLY DREW THIS BACK BEFORE I HAD PROPER REFERENCE MATERIAL FOR HIS CLOTHES, SO HIS COMPLETED FORM IS MORE REALISTIC THAN WHAT'S SHOWN HERE.

SO THE YOU FROM BACK THEN WAS LIKE THAT (4)

LEADER OF THE ENLIGHTENED CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

OUT OF THE FOUR, THIS GUY IS PROBABLY THE ONE WHO CHANGED THE LEAST.
...YEP, HASN'T CHANGED A BIT.

PLEASE TELL ME ALL OF THE INESCAPABLE HONMA STYLE SWORDSMANSHIP TECHNIQUES THAT MARO USES!

CHIBA PREFECTURE HUSBAND-LIKE PERMED USAGI-SAN

MARO KNOWS AROUND 2000 TECHNIQUES, SO LISTING THEM ALL WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE. INSTEAD, LET'S TALK ABOUT SOME OF THE MOVES THAT HAVE APPEARED IN THE MANGA.

WHIRLWIND INFERNO

AS SHOWN IN THE MANGA, THIS MOVE USES A SPINNING MOTION TO MOW DOWN ENEMIES. IT'S VERY USEFUL FOR WHEN YOU'RE SURROUNDED!!

GREAT WHEEL

WITH A SWORD IN BOTH HANDS, ONE MUST WAVE THEIR ARMS IN CIRCLES WHILE RUNNING FORWARD TO PERFORM THIS TECHNIQUE. IT'S WRITTEN THAT ONE OF MARO'S ANCESTORS PENETRATED AN ENEMY FORCE OF 2.4 MILES (ROUGHLY 4 KILOMETERS) USING THIS MOVE!!

CLIMBING FLOWER

USING A SINGLE ROTATING MOTION, THIS MOVE LAUNCHES THE OPPONENT INTO THE AIR. WITH THIS, A MATCH CAN BE DECIDED WITH A SINGLE ATTACK!!

SPIRAL CHAIN

THIS IS A NEW ULTIMATE TECHNIQUE MARO CREATED PERSONALLY. HOWEVER, THIS MOVE WOULD LATER BECOME A FORBIDDEN TECHNIQUE DUE TO ITS IMMENSE POWER.

DRAWING SAGI

MIYAZAKI PREFECTURE,

ISHIHANE-SAN

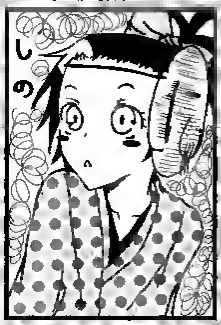
THIS IS A MASTERPIECE WORTH TWO SPOTS ON THIS PAGE!! THANK YOU!!

KANAGAWA PREFECTURE

PINO-SAN

IT MAKES ME SO HAPPY TO SEE THAT THE KIWI WAS ALSO INCLUDED!!

NARA PREFECTURE JULIE-SAN



THE RABBIT MASK'S SUSPICIOUS EXPRESSION GIVES OFF A GREAT [illegible]!!

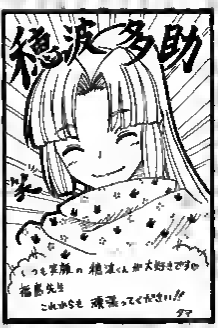
OKAYAMA PREFECTURE, MATSURA ASUKA-SAN

WHAT A REFRESHING SMILE! THAT'S A GREAT LOOK!!

DRAWING SAGA

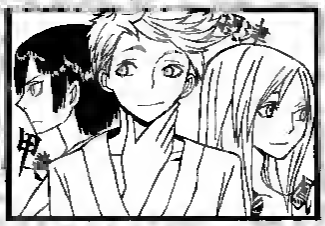
SHIMANE PREFECTURE
KOIMO-SAN

HE'S NOT HAPPY THAT IT'S HIS TURN, BUT EVEN SO, HE'S SMILING!



NAGANO PREFECTURE
TAMA-SAN

WHAT A WONDERFUL SMILE!! HIS RABBIT PATTERNED SCARF IS ALSO CUTE!!



GUNMA PREFECTURE

FUSSO-SAN

IT'S THE THREE HOTTIES!!

KANAGAWA PREFECTURE
JANUARY USAGI-SAN

NIIGATA PREFECTURE
NOBE-SAN

IT'S THE PAIR THAT GETS ALONG THE BEST!! COULD IT BE THEY'RE TOTALLY IN SYNCH?

THIS TWO SURE LOOK GOOD CLOD!! MARO'S PIRATE MARK REALLY DRAWS MY ATTENTION!!

DRAWING 4 GIRLS

MIYAZAKI PREFECTURE, NAPO☆-SAN

THE LEADER OF THE RONIN WHO ESCAPED THEIR ISLAND OF EXILE!! DOES THIS MEAN HE HAS THE SKILLS TO MATCH!?

A SMILING KIYOKI, HOW RARE! SEEING THIS KIND OF EXPRESSION MIGHT BE NICE TOO!

SHIZUOKA PREFECTURE, HICHOU-SAN

KAGAWA PREFECTURE, ISHII HIRU-SAN

THE TONES IN THIS PICTURE ARE JUST GORGEOUS!

GIFU PREFECTURE HITSUJI HINA-SAN

ASUKA AND MOZUKU... THEIR FACES ARE DIFFERENT, BUT WHAT ABOUT THEIR HEARTS...?

IWATE PREFECTURE, ITABASHI YURI-SAN

THIS SUZUME LOOKS SOMEWHAT SEXY! EVEN MARO IS GETTING EXCITED!?

おえかきコーナー

SHE LOOKS GREAT NO MATTER WHAT WHAT SHE'S WEARING!!

OSAKA PREFECTURE
CHA-KI-SAN

THESE TWO ARE THE MAIN CHARACTERS AFTER ALL!!

HIROSHIMA PREFECTURE
NEGITORO-SAN

EHIME PREFECTURE

YONOHA-SAN

I WONDER WHO THE RABBIT MASK IS THINKING ABOUT?

NAGANO PREFECTURE
HANAMURA MIKI-SAN

WHAT A PEACEFUL ILLUSTRATION! THE MOOD BETWEEN THESE TWO IS VERY NICE!!

EHIME PREFECTURE
NYAIRI-SAN

THIS HONAMI IS LOOKING MORE MATURE THAN USUAL! MAYBE THIS IS HOW HE'LL TURN OUT IN A FEW YEARS?

COMING UP NEXT IS THE FINAL VOLUME!!!

HELLO EVERYONE. THIS IS THE AUTHOR, FUKUSHIMA TEPPEI. THE EIGHTH VOLUME OF "SAMURAI USAGI" IS THE NEXT ISSUE, AND FINALLY THE LAST. WITH THAT SAID, I MUST ANNOUNCE THAT APPLICATIONS ARE NO LONGER BEING ACCEPTED. I CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR ALL THE WONDERFUL KIMONO IDEAS, QUESTIONS AND ILLUSTRATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN SENT IN!!

IN THE EIGHTH VOLUME, THE MAJORITY OF THE OMAKE PAGES WILL BE USED TO ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT CHARACTER POPULARITY POLL. LOOK FORWARD TO IT!!

STAFF

さくえ 福島鉄平　　担当 吉田幸司

小倉祐也　　小山潤

竹内良輔　　土田健太

SPECIAL THANKS

O.Y

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